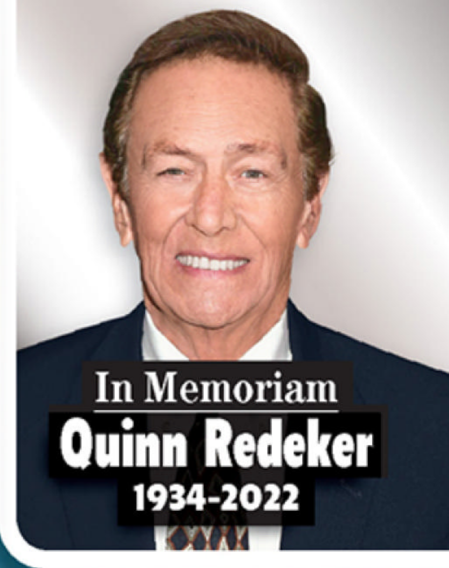
soap OPERA digest

BREAKING NEWS

- GH Superstar BACK
- DAYS Fave INJURED
- 2 Y&R Alums RETURN!



In Memoriam

Quinn Redeker

1934-2022

Days MARLENA DIES! But There's A BIG Twist

JANUARY 30, 2023

Special Interview!

Tracey E. Bregman Celebrates 40 Years As Y&R's Lauren

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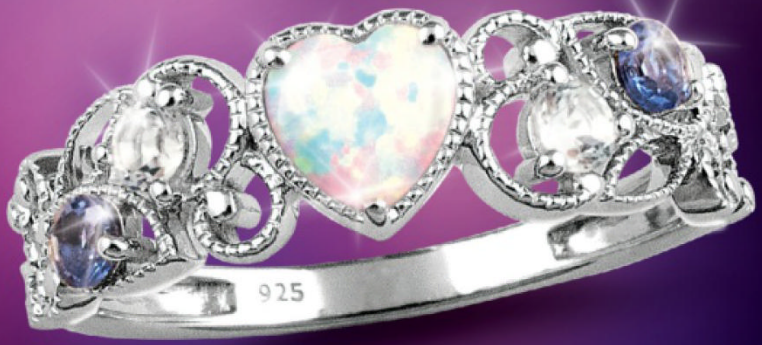

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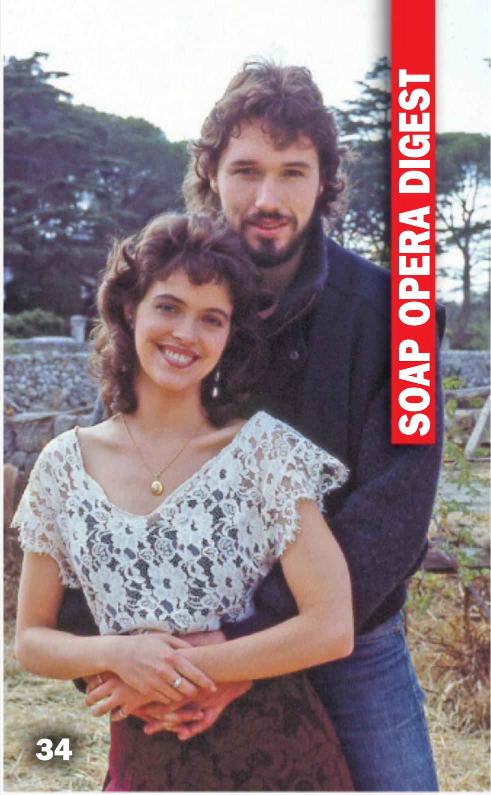

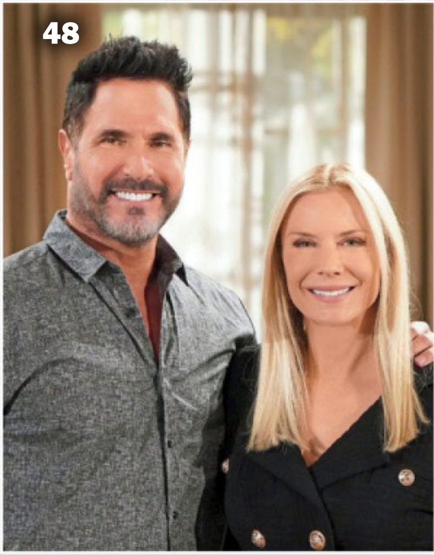

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COVER CREDITS: Deidre Hall (Marlena, DAYS). Photo: XJ Johnson/JPI. Tracey E. Bregman and Quinn Redeker (Lauren and ex-Rex, Y&R). Photos: Howard Wise/JPI.

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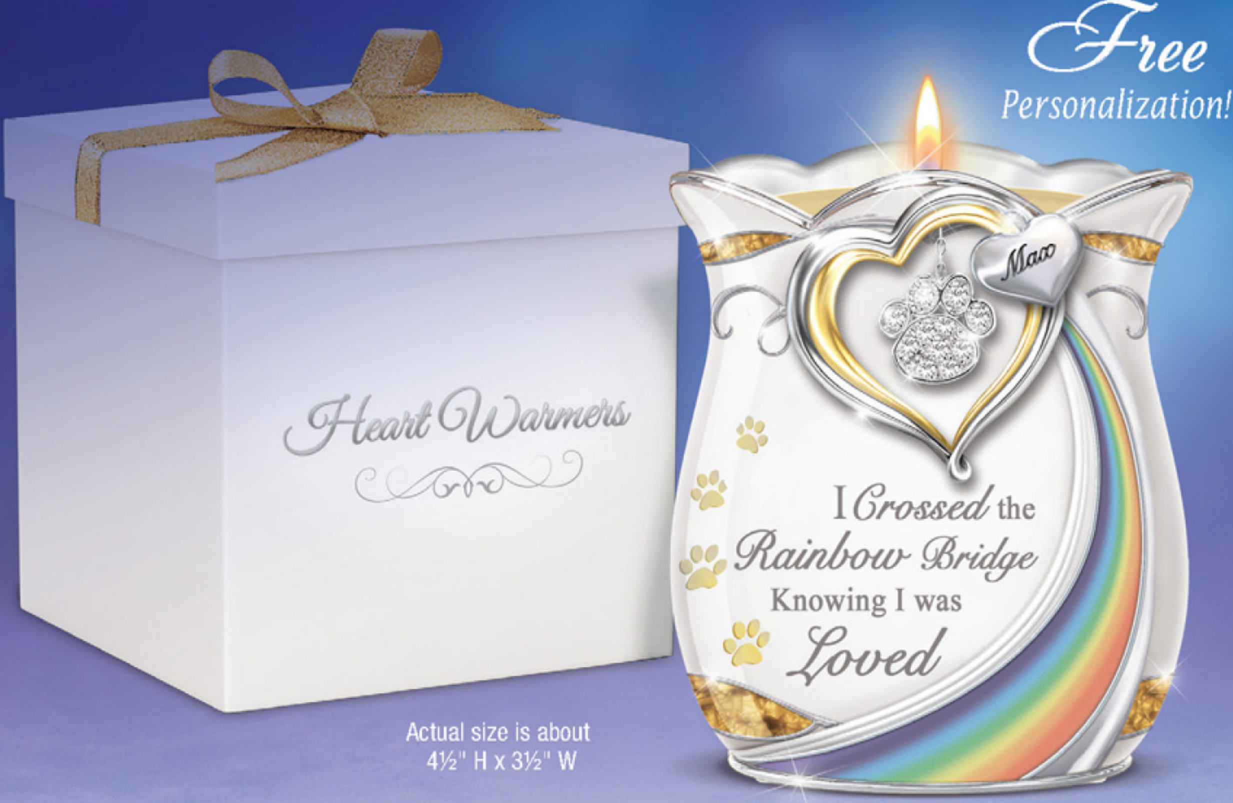

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late-breaking news

hot off the press

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QUINN REDEKER DIES AT 88

HOWARD WISE/JPI

Quinn Redeker, who played Alex Marshall on DAYS from 1979-87 and Y&R's Rex Sterling from 1987-94, died on December 20, 2022 at the age of 88. Born in Woodstock, IL, Redeker was a guest-star staple on American TV throughout the 1960s, 1970s and 1980s, and was nominated for an Academy Award for original screenplay for the acclaimed 1978 film *The Deer Hunter*. In addition to television, Redeker had co-starring turns in films such as *The Electric Horseman*, *The Candidate* and *Ordinary People*. The actor won two *Soap Opera Digest* Awards, for Favorite Villain on DAYS in 1983 (when they were called the Soapys) and for Outstanding Supporting Actor in 1989 for Y&R, and earned two Daytime Emmy nominations for his work on Y&R. He is survived by his four children, Brennen, Arianne, Glaen and Quinn Jr., as well as two grandchildren.

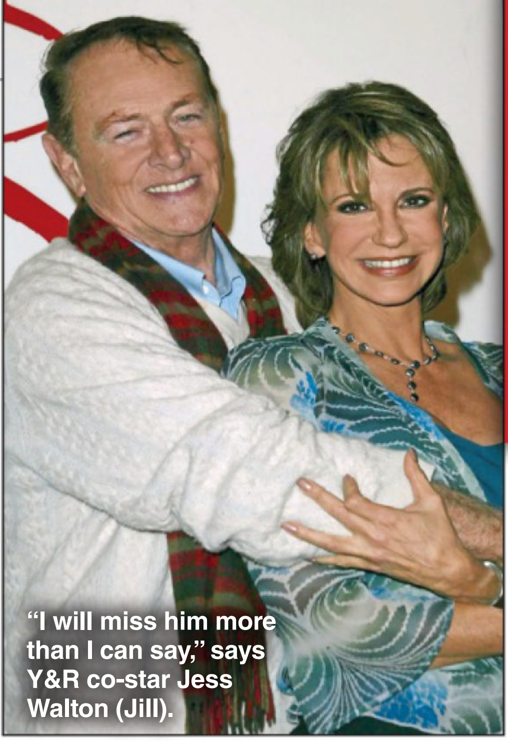
The official Twitter account for Y&R posted, “The Y&R Family sends our deepest condolences to the family and loved ones of Quinn Redeker who blessed Y&R with his talents in two memorable roles.”

Stephen Nichols (Steve, DAYS; ex-Tucker, Y&R) posted, “Love to Quinn's family. Quinn was a wonderful man and he was a joy to share the stage with.” Wally Kurth (Justin, DAYS) added to Nichols's post, noting, “Loved Quinn. So sad to hear this news. He was one of the most interesting actors I've ever met. And obviously a gifted writer. I ran into him at a coffee shop years ago where he was working away on his laptop.. writing a screenplay. So passionate and animated. I wished I could have worked w him more as an actor. He had that spark. RIP Quinn.”

Michael Damian (Danny,

Y&R) says, "It is with a heavy heart that I say goodbye to my Y&R dad Quinn (a.k.a., Rex Sterling) Redeker. He was always so very kind to me, all the cast and crew and brought so many wonderful memories to the screen with his heartfelt performances. Quinn will be forever in our heart. With all my love and Godspeed, Michael."

"To anybody who knew him, Quinn was bigger than life," Deidre Hall (Marlena, DAYS) tells *Digest*. "He raised a large family. He lived a large life. He traveled extensively. He lived a big life. I had dated him for a while. Years and years ago, one of our co-stars was doing a show in Lake Tahoe. We said, 'Let's go up and see him.' I thought, 'What fun. We'll fly up to Tahoe and see the show.' We'd been sitting around the lunch table with Bill [Hayes, Doug] and Susan [Seaforth Hayes, Julie], when we could still do that, and were talking about it. Quinn got the reservations. Then he said, 'Okay. We're going on Friday,' or whenever it was. He told me, 'But it's really cold there, so be sure to pack some warm clothes. We'll just be gone for three days, but pack some warm clothes.' So Friday came and off we went to the airport. Quinn said, 'I've got a surprise for you, but I need for you not to open your eyes as we go through the airport.' Of course, what I realized was that Bill and Susan were going and a whole bunch of cast was going to be going together. I thought, 'Oh, what fun this will be. Okay, I'll play along. I'll keep my eyes closed.' So we walk through the airport. We check in and get on the plane. We're sitting on the plane, and Quinn says, 'Okay, you can open your eyes.' The stewardess is standing in front of us and she says, 'I don't know what to do. I've got to make the announcement.' He said, 'Well, I guess you better go ahead and make the announcement.' So the stewardess said, 'One of our passengers will be very surprised tonight to hear that our destination is Venice.' I burst into tears and couldn't stop crying. I had always wanted to go to Venice. During that lunch talk we had, I said that I'd always wanted to go to Venice. So everybody knew about [this surprise trip] but me. Bill and Susan had sent along a little travel guide of what to see. And that was it. We spent three days in Venice. Quinn was a big guy, and that was how he did things."



"I will miss him more than I can say," says Y&R co-star Jess Walton (Jill).

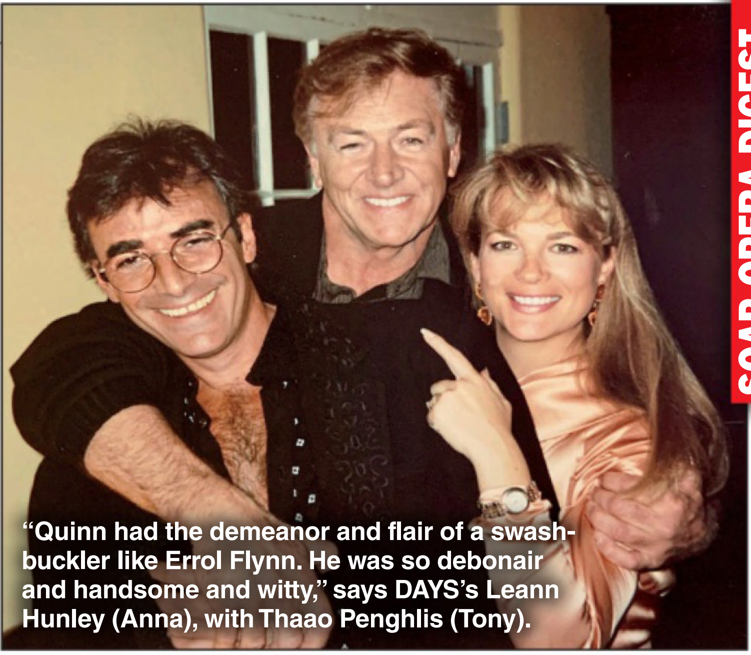
JILL JOHNSON/JPI

Y&R's Melody Thomas Scott (Nikki) says, "Quinn was the quintessential gentleman. So charming, always positive and extremely supportive to everyone he knew. I was so lucky to have him guide me through my first storyline on Y&R [when he played Nicholas Reed]. True, Nikki killed him, but he made it a helluva lot of fun. We were blessed to get his beautiful spirit back years later in the form of Rex Sterling. Such a wonderful actor; he could play anything. He was also a very talented writer. He co-wrote *The Deer Hunter,* which I don't think a lot of people know. He was responsible for the Russian roulette scene, which was pivotal to that incredible story. Thank you, Quinn, for all that you gave me, and all that you gave your audiences. Which, like all great actors, was everything you had. Rest peacefully, my dear friend."

Kate Linder (Esther, Y&R) offers, "I am so sad to learn of the passing of Quinn Redeker. He was so very talented, kind and giving. How fortunate I was to have worked with him. I can still see the twinkle in his eye. My heart goes out to his family and friends. He will be forever missed."

Jess Walton (Jill) adds, "I loved working with Quinn. I learned one of my most important acting lessons from him. And that is to lock eyes with your scene mate before they call 'Action' no matter how long ... really connect with them ... it makes everything else go away. But the most amazing and wonderful thing about that man was in all the years we worked together ... I never heard him say a bad word about anyone, he was always, always positive. He was always 'the glass is half full' ... about everything in life! I loved him very much and I will miss him more than I can say."

Redeker's longtime DAYS co-stars, Leann Hunley (Anna) and Thaao Penghlis (Tony), also shared stories with *Digest* about the actor. "I have such fond memories of my time working with Quinn and I learned so much from him," smiles Hunley. "Because he was a scriptwriter, he was what I would call a 'generous' actor. He allowed me to play with the scenes we were given to find the structure of a scene and create moments of interest in what we were saying to each other. I also credit him with helping me take advantage of the comic timing written into the scenes. Quinn's pet name for Anna was 'Saddleshoes'. I'm getting emotional just thinking of hearing him say it right now. Quinn had the demeanor and flair of a swashbuckler like Errol Flynn. He was so debonair and handsome and witty and I was always so grateful that he was Anna's first love interest on DAYS. We were partners in crime. Anna had a pretty shady past at that time and Alex Marshall was deliciously devilish! We were friends off screen, as well, and I have many lovely recollections, and pictures, of the times at the parties we would throw back in the day. I will always be grateful that I had the good fortune to not only work with Quinn but to share an affection with him. Godspeed, dear Quinn."


COURTESY OF LEANN HUNLEY

"Quinn had the demeanor and flair of a swashbuckler like Errol Flynn. He was so debonair and handsome and witty," says DAYS's Leann Hunley (Anna), with Thaao Penghlis (Tony).

Penghlis shares, "He's an actor I will never forget. In the way he worked in his dressing room, writing a new screenplay, he was also one of the original writers of *The Deer Hunter*, and he would look at a passage and just remember it so well. He always had such gusto because of his love for life. But the thing that was outstanding about him was his attitude. He would come on set and he was like a life force. You don't see that anymore. He was simple, passionate but always embraced you. I saw him twice last year for lunch and he said he was writing a movie. He was one of those magical actors. I will always remember Quinn Redeker."

DAYS: MARLENA DIES!

Heaven Sent: After she passes away, Marlena (Hall) runs into an old pal.

XJ JOHNSON/JPI

Will, Belle and Eric all pray for a miracle for Marlena as she dies in John's arms up on the rooftop of the hospital. "Marlena's weak. She's exhausted. It's an end-of-life moment," recounts her portrayer, Deidre Hall. "She's so relieved to be with John. It's the only place she would want to be."

The couple reflects on their many years together. "It's tender and romantic," remembers Hall. "It's heartfelt. Marlena feels gratitude for her life with John, the depth of the love she shared with him. What we have in this scene is John and Marlena flashing back on their love story. It's dreamy. It's the kind of thing the audience loves and that Ron [Carlivati, head writer] writes so well. It's the history, the backstory, the richness and the emotion of it."

John rushes Marlena down from the rooftop to Sarah, who is unable to revive her. Eric and Belle offer emotional farewells. For Hall, the bedside scenes of Marlena's children professing their love to their deceased mother was "a mixed bag" from a performing standpoint. "First of all, I didn't have to learn dialogue, and I got to be in bed and be relaxed and have very little makeup on," she notes. "That's just an actor's dream, at least it's one of mine. The [difficult] thing was having my eyes closed and listening to two people that I love so much pour out their hearts and trying not to cry. It's as if I was sitting there awake listening to it but, of course, I can't have that response to it. Those are two actors who are very good at doing that. Martha [Madison, Belle] is unsurpassed in doing emotional scenes and communicating deep feelings."

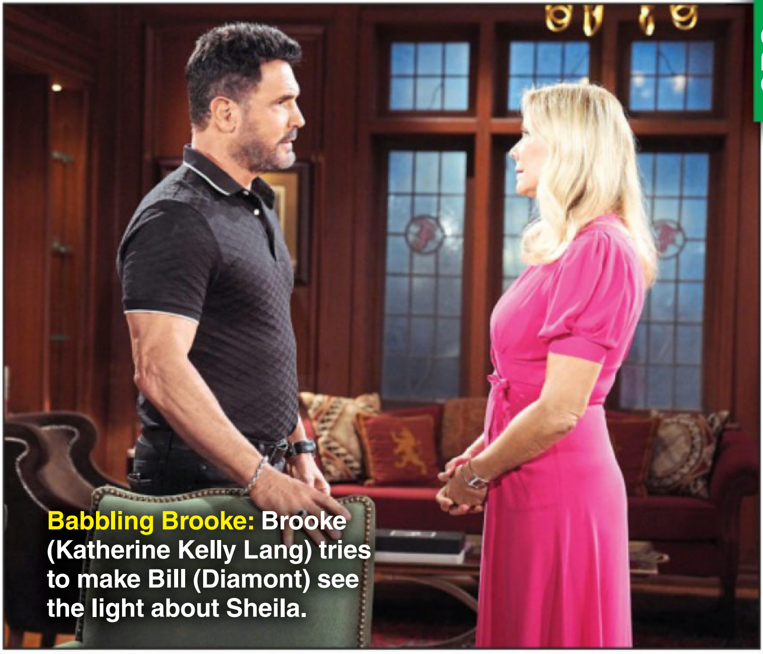
"She's confused and lost."

After Belle and Eric say their goodbyes, John approaches Marlena's bedside and shares his belief that their storied love will never die. Again, Hall had to "be steely ... try not to hear what he was saying. I didn't want to get too caught up in the emotion of it and react to it."

Finally, Marlena is left alone and her soul rises from her body. As John grapples with his unimaginable grief, Marlena finds herself in a heavenly place. "It was an easy performance because Marlena doesn't know where she is," explains Hall. "She's confused and lost. There's the confusion of, 'Where am I? What's happened? What's going on?' "

Then, suddenly, Marlena encounters her late friend, Susan Banks. "And that just adds to Marlena's confusion," says Hall.

B&B: BROOKE PLEADS WITH BILL



Babbling Brooke: Brooke (Katherine Kelly Lang) tries to make Bill (Diamont) see the light about Sheila.

HOWARD WISE/JPI

Brooke confronts Bill and Sheila after discovering that the two are involved. "He can understand Brooke's reaction, and he doesn't disagree with Brooke's observations," notes Don Diamont (Bill). "But he's so lost. He is in such a dark place that he is not the Bill that we've all known and so the pleas fall on deaf ears."

With Brooke present, Bill declares his love for Sheila, and she reciprocates. "Sheila is professing her love, and it's not that he doesn't recognize what she is capable of," explains Diamont. "He thinks that he can control it, and that her love for him is genuine, and he is unencumbered by the restrictions that other women have tried to put on him. So, I think he feels that now he can play to his worst tendencies. And, he feels that whatever he does, he will not be judged by her and he can't hurt her. If this is his worst self, she's okay with that. It's *almost* heroic because he's like, 'I don't want to hurt anybody anymore so I'm just going to move in this direction and protect everyone from myself.' That's his thinking."

But Sheila still worries that Brooke's passionate attempt to get through to Bill will succeed. "Sheila is feeling threatened by Brooke appealing to Bill," adds the actor. "Brooke is trying to appeal to him like everyone else has, saying much of the same thing. You see the emotional and mental anguish that he's in. He is in this place that he is not reachable. Sheila is initially threatened by Brooke, but Bill then reassures her. Brooke says her piece and Sheila is initially speaking for Bill in response to Brooke's questions and Brooke is like, 'Can't you speak for yourself? What is happening to you? Who are you?' And then he does, and that's when I think Brooke sees the depth of Bill's vulnerability and despair. He is not fully in his right mind and I think she gets that when he finally does speak for himself."

"He is not fully in his right mind."

As for a future with Sheila, Diamont offers, "Yes, Bill is prepared to move forward in the relationship. And, what everybody's opinions are be damned. This is the love he feels he deserves, or that he is worthy of, and with this kind of person, and he's embracing it."

Y&R: KYLE DISCOVERS JACK AND DIANE ARE LOVERS

After making love the night before, Jack and Diane are sharing a quiet moment in the Abbott living room when Kyle and Summer enter and immediately feel a different vibe with his parents. “It’s just one of those things where you walk in and just know the energy is different,” relays Michael Mealor (Kyle). “There’s an intimacy that Kyle is sensing between his mom and dad that he hasn’t noticed between them before. Summer knows right away that things are different because of that women’s intuition.”

The New Normal? Kyle (Mealor) and Summer (Allison Lanier, both r.) don’t react well to Jack (Peter Bergman) and Diane’s (Susan Walters) newfound closeness.

HOWARD WISE/JPI

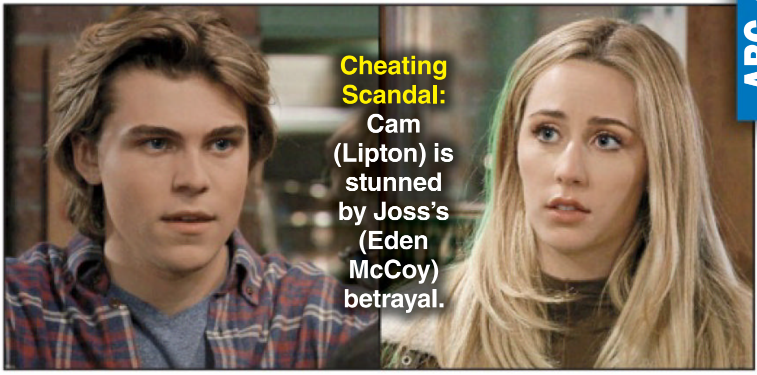
At first, Kyle wonders if his mom spent the night again because Jeremy is still a threat. “Kyle is worried because everything they tried before to get Stark out of their lives never really worked out,” Mealor points out. “So now he wants to know if he needs to worry about Summer and their son’s safety. Kyle wants to protect his own so he needs to know if he has to go back to that mindset of setting up a security detail.”

Jack assures Kyle that Stark is in custody and has been neutralized. However, Jack confirms that he and Diane are in a romantic relationship. “This throws Kyle for a loop,” the actor shares. “He saw signs of his mom and dad getting closer but he just sort of ignored it. Diane can see that Kyle is a little freaked out and she explains that this wasn’t planned. She came back to Genoa City only to connect with Kyle. She never in a million years thought that Jack would forgive her, which proves what a big heart he has. Well, Kyle doesn’t want to hear about his dad’s big heart.”

“This is a lot for Kyle to process.”

Jack and Diane are concerned when Kyle and Summer suddenly head out to the office. “This is a lot for Kyle to process,” admits Mealor. “Every child of divorced parents usually dreams of them reconciling but Kyle can’t go there. He just got his mom back. What if she and his dad don’t work out, then where will that leave them? This isn’t good news to Kyle at all.”

GH: CAMERON CATCHES JOSSLYN WITH DEX



Cheating Scandal: Cam (Lipton) is stunned by Joss's (Eden McCoy) betrayal.

PHOTOS: ABC

Already devastated by his breakup from Josslyn, Cameron is in for a fresh dose of heartbreak when he catches her with Dex.

According to his portrayer, William Lipton, Cam turned a blind eye to what was brewing between Joss and Dex "because he was just so madly in love with her, so a lot of the smaller details that something might be up completely eluded him. Cameron's nature is to be so selfless, and he's so emotionally connected to this girl, to the point where it was a little of a rose-colored glasses kind of thing." So, hoping to chat with her about the possibility of salvaging their friendship, Cam drops by her dorm room. Says Lipton, "I think that Cam goes to her dorm out of guilt, because Cameron was very cold to Josslyn when they interacted at Kelly's after the breakup. It's like his heart just wants to remedy that because he still has a lot of care for her feelings and wants to make sure she's okay."

But Cam receives a most unwelcome surprise when he finds Joss with a shirtless Dex. Sighs Lipton, "I think a little part of Cameron always knew that something was weird with Dex and Josslyn's relationship, but seeing that was just a shock; it's a huge disappointment for Cameron to see that she has moved on so soon after the breakup. It's heartbreaking even before he knows that she actually had cheated on him."

That's a realization he comes to quickly, however. "There are just little puzzle pieces for him to put together," the actor explains. "He's been broken up with, he's been dumped, and now seeing how quickly she's moved on, it's not a huge stretch to kind of come to conclusions." When he accuses Joss of having been intimate with Dex prior to their split, "Josslyn finally admits that what Cameron's thinking, his hunch, is actually correct." For Cam, "It's definitely brutal."

"I think a little part of Cameron always knew."

Before Cam has much time to process Joss's betrayal, she beseeches him to keep mum about her involvement with Dex, citing the potential consequences to Dex should Sonny catch wind of his employee's extracurricular activities. "She basically tells him that Dex's life is in Cameron's hands, because if Sonny finds out, he's dead meat," Lipton sums up. "The whole situation is so messed up! The dude who was responsible for and complicit in the cheating is the guy that he now has to protect by not telling everyone the real reason for the breakup?! That is super-hard for Cameron, and that's how I played it. I think Cameron's compassion will ultimately be the barrier [stopping him from telling Sonny], but Cameron is in such an emotional state, it's hard to really tell which way he's gonna go."

late-breaking news

EARLY EDITIONS!

A preview of next week's stories.

BOLD AND BEAUTIFUL

- **Catching Katie off-guard, Sheila levies a serious threat.**
- Taylor confesses her crime to Brooke.
- Steffy and Finn find passion in the midst of chaos.

B&B's Sheila (Kimberlin Brown, l.) and Katie (Heather Tom)

PHOTOS: HOWARD WISE/JPI

DAYS OF OUR LIVES

- **Jack gives Gwen an ultimatum.**
- Sarah serves Xander with divorce papers.
- Paulina excoriates Alex.
- Chad and Stephanie share a close moment.

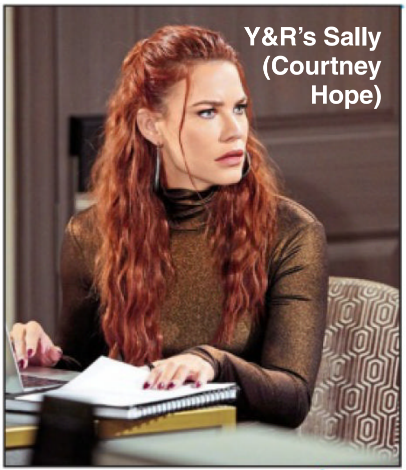
DAYS's Jack (Matthew Ashford) and Gwen (Emily O'Brien)

GENERAL HOSPITAL

- Nina gets new information.
- **Stella is determined to discover the truth.**
- Port Charles gathers to say good-bye to Britt.

GH's Stella (Vernee Watson)

CHRIS D/JPI; XJ JOHNSON/JPI


Y&R's Sally (Courtney Hope)

YOUNG AND RESTLESS

- Victor conspires with Kyle.
- Lauren gives Phyllis words of wisdom.
- Victoria travels outside her comfort zone.
- **Sally makes a confession.**

RATINGS RACE: WEEK OF DECEMBER 26

The numbers listed after each show are ratings points. Each ratings point represents 1,238,000 homes. These numbers now reflect DVR playback within the same day.

Show	Rating
YOUNG AND RESTLESS	2.41
BOLD AND BEAUTIFUL	2.21
GENERAL HOSPITAL	1.45

** DAYS's ratings are not available from Peacock.*

NIELSEN MEDIA RESEARCH

BRIAN TO/SHUTTERSTOCK

Vail returns to Y&R.

Comings and Goings

the latest cast changes

who's coming

GENERAL HOSPITAL

Denise Crosby (Carolyn Webber): Crosby is back on the canvas as Elizabeth's (**Rebecca Herbst**) estranged mom; see page 14 for more.

Jane Elliot (Tracy Quartermaine): Elliot, the fan fave and Daytime Emmy-winner, is returning to the show in April. She first joined the Port Charles ranks in 1978 and retired in 2017, but unlike the visits she has subsequently made, this comeback will be long-term.

YOUNG AND RESTLESS

Vail Bloom (Heather Stevens): The actress, who first played Paul's (**Doug Davidson**) lawyer daughter as an adult from 2007 to 2010, is returning to reprise the role. A start date hasn't been announced. After her departure, Heather was played by **Eden Riegel** (ex-Bianca, ALL MY CHILDREN), 2010-11, and **Jennifer Landon** (ex-Gwen, AS THE WORLD TURNS), 2012.

Judith Chapman (Gloria Bardwell): Gloria is back for Lauren's (**Tracey E. Bregman**) big night on January 25.

Julian Larach (Trey): This Fenmore's employee meets with Lauren on January 25.

Lily Brooks O'Briant (Lucy Romalotti): Daniel's (**Michael Graziadei**) daughter will be accompanying Heather to Genoa City.

Zach Tinker (Fenmore Baldwin): Tinker (Sonny, DAYS) is back as Fen on January 25. See sidebar for more.

MATT BARON/SHUTTERSTOCK

Lisa bids farewell to her Bravo gig.

who's going

THE REAL HOUSEWIVES OF BEVERLY HILLS

Lisa Rinna (ex-Billie, DAYS) is exiting THE REAL HOUSEWIVES OF BEVERLY HILLS after eight seasons. "This is the longest job I have held in my 35-year career, and I am grateful to everyone at Bravo and all those involved in the series," Rinna said in a statement. "It has been a fun eight-year run, and I am excited for what is to come!"

ZACH TINKER ON Y&R RETURN

AFF-USA SHUTTERSTOCK

■ **Zach Tinker** (Sonny, DAYS) was pleasantly surprised when he received the invitation from Y&R to reprise the role of Fenmore Baldwin. "My manager reached out and said that **Tracey's** [**E. Bregman**] 40th anniversary on the show was coming up and that they wanted to possibly have me back and I was like, 'Game!' " enthuses the actor. "I love everyone at Y&R; the cast and crew are a wonderful group, so any opportunity to go play with them for a day was music to my ears."

It's been a while since Tinker spent time with his Genoa City parents, Bregman and **Christian J. LeBlanc** (Michael), in person. "We had lunch together about a year ago but we haven't seen each other since," he shares. "Between Christian doing his play [*Cat on a Hot Tin Roof*] in New York, and Tracey traveling all of the time, it's been hard to schedule another get-together. I'm always in contact with them through text and social media, so it was really wonderful to see them at Y&R."

Being back at his former soap was "a little trippy," Tinker admits. "But as soon as I was back to the dressing rooms, and in the makeup chair, and on the set, it felt like I hadn't missed a beat. It was really fun to just play with everyone, and since I was just coming back to do one episode, I didn't have the pressure of doing a crazy storyline or performing a monologue. It was kind of an excuse just to hang out with them. In fact, it's stupid that I got paid for it. We also got free tacos for lunch so it was an all-around fantastic day."

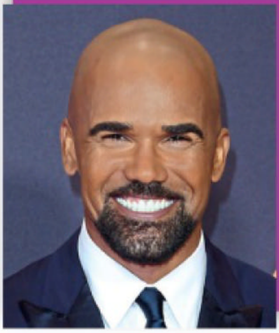
Also putting in an appearance on Lauren's special day is her brother-in-law, which means portrayer **Greg Rikaart** took a break from DAYS, where he plays the opportunistic Leo, to come back as Kevin. "It's funny how Greg plays my uncle on this show, but my ex-husband on the other," chuckles Tinker. "I love Greg. He's one of the funniest, sweetest, most amazing dudes I know, so I love anytime I get to work with him."

Though Fenmore has had past trouble with drugs, Tinker happily reports, "He's done a lot of soul-searching and he's doing well in Nashville. What I can surmise from the script, Fen is in a good place." And as far as any future returns for his character, the actor concludes, "If they want me, I'd love to come back."

GH REVEALS 60TH ANNIVERSARY PLANS

GH, which will mark its 60th anniversary on April 1, will kick off its programming commemorating this milestone at the end of March with a special episode honoring the late **Sonya Eddy** (ex-Epiphany), who passed away last December. Then, the Nurses' Ball will return starting the week of April 3. The ball, a fixture on the show from 1994-2001 that returned as an annual tradition in 2013, has not been produced since 2020, when it was reimagined as a telethon in light of Covid restrictions.

REAL-LIFE STATUS


DAVID FISHER/SHUTTERSTOCK

■ **Tickled Pink: Shemar Moore** (ex-Malcolm, Y&R) announced that he will become a first-time father at the age of 52. The actor shared the news on Instagram and on THE JENNIFER HUDSON SHOW. The baby girl, who he and lady love **Jesiree Dizon** plan to name Frankie, is due on February 8, which is also the anniversary of the passing of Moore's mother. Coincidentally, his character on S.W.A.T., Hondo, is also becoming a first-time dad.

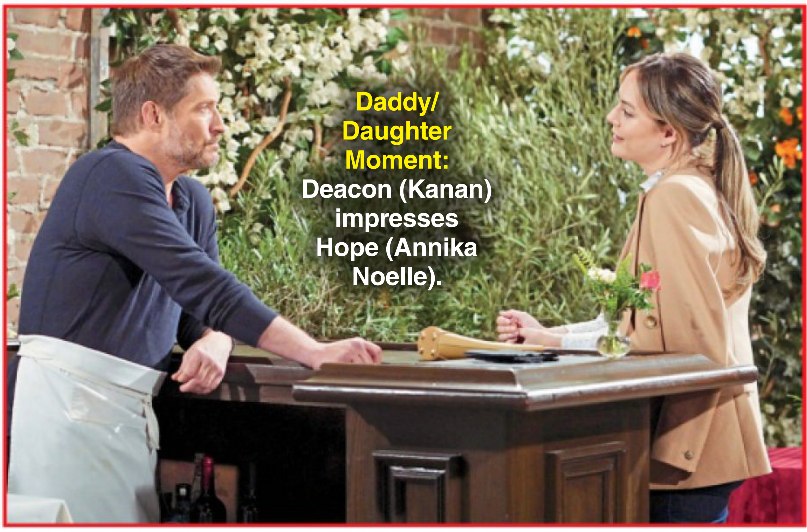
INSTAGRAM/GERING

DAYS Star Injured: Galen Gering (Rafe, DAYS) reported on social media that he was hospitalized with three broken ribs on January 6. "Life sure can change quickly," he posted, adding photos of his hospital records.

Hot Plots Pr

BOLD AND BEAUTIFUL

Deacon And Hope Bond



Daddy/ Daughter Moment: Deacon (Kanan) impresses Hope (Annika Noelle).

PHOTOS: HOWARD WISE/JPI

Deacon and Hope have a bonding moment as she sees her father planning for the future. "Deacon was able to secure enough money for a down payment and he is the new proprietor of Il Giardino," explains Sean Kanan (Deacon). "That happened rather quickly. He is working diligently to come up with a perfect pizza recipe so he's hoping that will go somewhere — and Hope couldn't be prouder. That moves him. He loves his daughter and wants to make her proud and maybe, just maybe, Deacon's ship is about to come in."

Whether or not Deacon is a changed man remains to be seen. "I think he has made positive changes in his life," Kanan reflects. "He lives for Hope. And yes, he has had so many doors slammed in his face in his life because of his past behavior. No one is willing to give him a second chance. There are times when he still associates with people who can get him in trouble, like Sheila [*laughs*], but a lot of the time, it's like he can't catch a break. I hope this is the one time where maybe Deacon can catch a break."

Try, Try Again: Carolyn (Crosby, r.) hopes she can earn Liz's (Rebecca Herbst) forgiveness.

CHRISTOPHER WILLARD/ABC; CHRISTINE BARTOLUCCI/ABC

GENERAL HOSPITAL

Carolyn Comes To Town

Hoping to make amends with her estranged daughter, Carolyn shows up at G.H. to see Liz.

According to portrayer Denise Crosby, Carolyn knows she will likely be rejected by Liz, "but the situation

eview! What Will Happen

YOUNG AND RESTLESS

Celebrating Lauren

In observance of Tracey E. Bregman's 40 years as Lauren, Y&R is devoting an entire episode to the the character, who receives a Lifetime Achievement Award for Leadership In Fashion. "I'm so touched," smiles the actress. "I loved doing the special episode for Christian [J. LeBlanc, Michael] and I thought it was really amazing. I'm very flattered that the show would give this much attention to Lauren."

Although the awards ceremony takes place off camera, Bregman assures that the fans will feel part of Lauren's celebration. "Through all of these wonderful flashbacks, the audience will get a peek into Lauren's colorful past," she explains. "It's a pretty extraordinary feat to go through 40 years of material to find these great moments for fans to relive. You're going to see a lot of shoulder pads and different hairstyles. I laughed out loud at a couple of them and I think long-term and new viewers will really enjoy the episode."

Designing Woman: With Michael (Christian J. LeBlanc) at her side, Lauren (Bregman) is given her due.

begs for her to take her best shot. She knows it could go really wrong, but she can't live with herself if she doesn't take the shot. She wants to make a connection with her daughter and to try to make amends for something that is almost impossible to make amends for. She explains that she really felt she was doing the right thing by trying to prevent her daughter from this trauma that had happened, and tries to get Elizabeth to see it from her point of view. That is really difficult for Elizabeth, but I think she recognizes the pain and the sorrow and the remorse that her mother has."

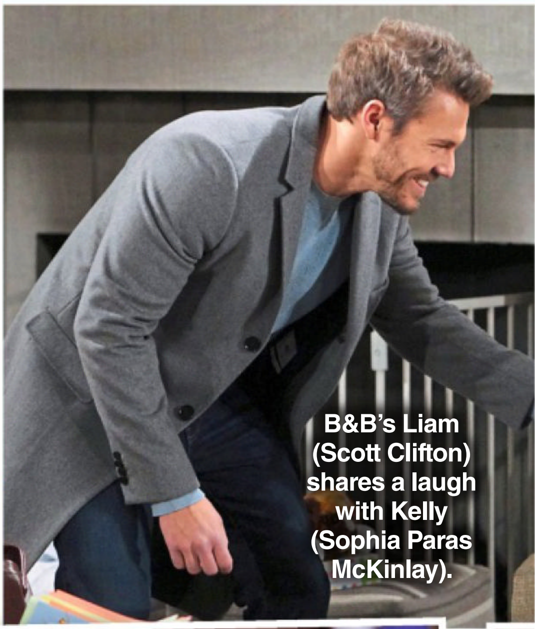
Carolyn's next stop is Wyndemere, where Nikolas catches her off-guard by requesting her help with Esme, which he pitches as something that would benefit Liz. Says Crosby, "He doesn't give Carolyn all the details, but he does force it down her throat a little bit that, 'Your daughter is in trouble and you've got to help her.' "

sneak peek

1st LOOK photos

A glimpse of what's coming up in the week ahead!

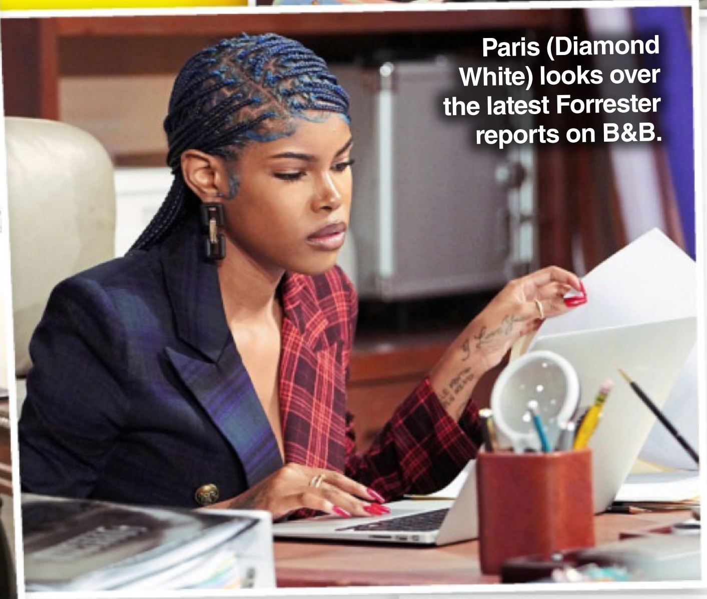
PHOTOS: HOWARD WISE/JPI



B&B's Liam (Scott Clifton) shares a laugh with Kelly (Sophia Paras McKinlay).

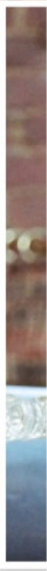
Gabi (Camila Banus) discovers that Stefan (Brandon Barash) is a drag on DAYS.

XJ JOHNSON/JPI



Paris (Diamond White) looks over the latest Forrester reports on B&B.

XJ JOHNSON/JPI



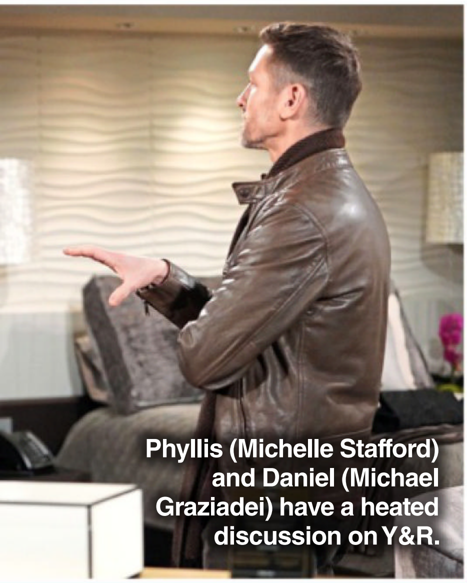
Y&R's Victoria (Amelia Heinle) has a run-in with Tucker (Trevor St. John).

DAYS's Wendy (Victoria Grace) looks on in horror as Johnny (Carson Boatman, r.) and Tripp (Lucas Adams) come to blows.

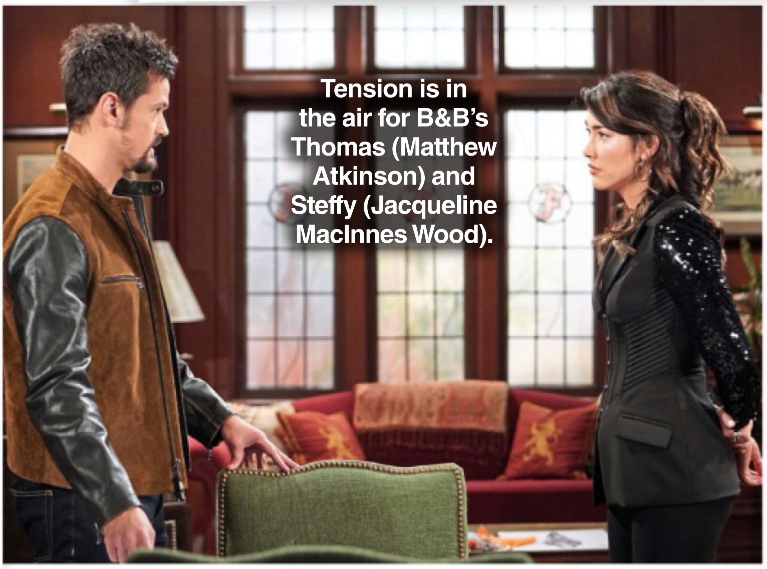
XJ JOHNSON/JPI

DAYS's Eric (Greg Vaughan) drowns his sorrows at the pub.

Billy (Jason Thompson) and Lily (Christel Khalil) connect on Y&R.



Phyllis (Michelle Stafford) and Daniel (Michael Graziadei) have a heated discussion on Y&R.



Tension is in the air for B&B's Thomas (Matthew Atkinson) and Steffy (Jacqueline MacInnes Wood).

BEHIND the SCENES!

Social snaps of stars on set.

"The wait is over! Shaking things up a bit for Zion and Georgia in season 2 of GINNY and GEORGIA," reported GH alum Vinessa Antoine (ex-Jordan, GH, l.), with Nathan Mitchell and Brianne Howey.

INSTAGRAM/ANTOINE; INSTAGRAM BOATMAN

DAYS's Kristian Alfonso (Hope) shared a shot from the set with Peter Reckell (Bo, l.) and Steve Burton (Harris).

INSTAGRAM/ALFONSO

"One of my fave looks this season on #AcapulcoTV, showing a softer side to Diane's fashion," opined Jessica Collins (ex-Avery, Y&R et al) of her Apple TV+ series.

INSTAGRAM/COLLINS

"Johnny DiMera, Suave Samurai," declared DAYS's Carson Boatman.

INSTAGRAM/JONES

"Every once in a while you get an experience like I had on @sohelpmecbs," smiled Ashley Jones (Bridget, B&B) of appearing on SO HELP ME TODD. "I love making new friends."

INSTAGRAM/SWEENEY

Alison Sweeney (ex-Sami, DAYS, l.) and Lacey Chabert (ex-Bianca, ALL MY CHILDREN) did press together in support of the second installment of their WEDDING VEIL trilogy on Hallmark Channel. "So many behind-the-scenes stories and memories," Sweeney noted.

Kelly Thiebaud (ex-Britt, GH) posed next to her character's party sign.

INSTAGRAM/THIEBAUD

"Back at it!" tweeted Y&R's Melissa Claire Egan (Chelsea), with Mark Grossman (Adam, c.) and Judah Mackey (Connor) post-winter break.

TWITTER/EGAN

Eric Winter (ex-Rex, DAYS) and co-star Melissa O'Neil took a break while filming THE ROOKIE.

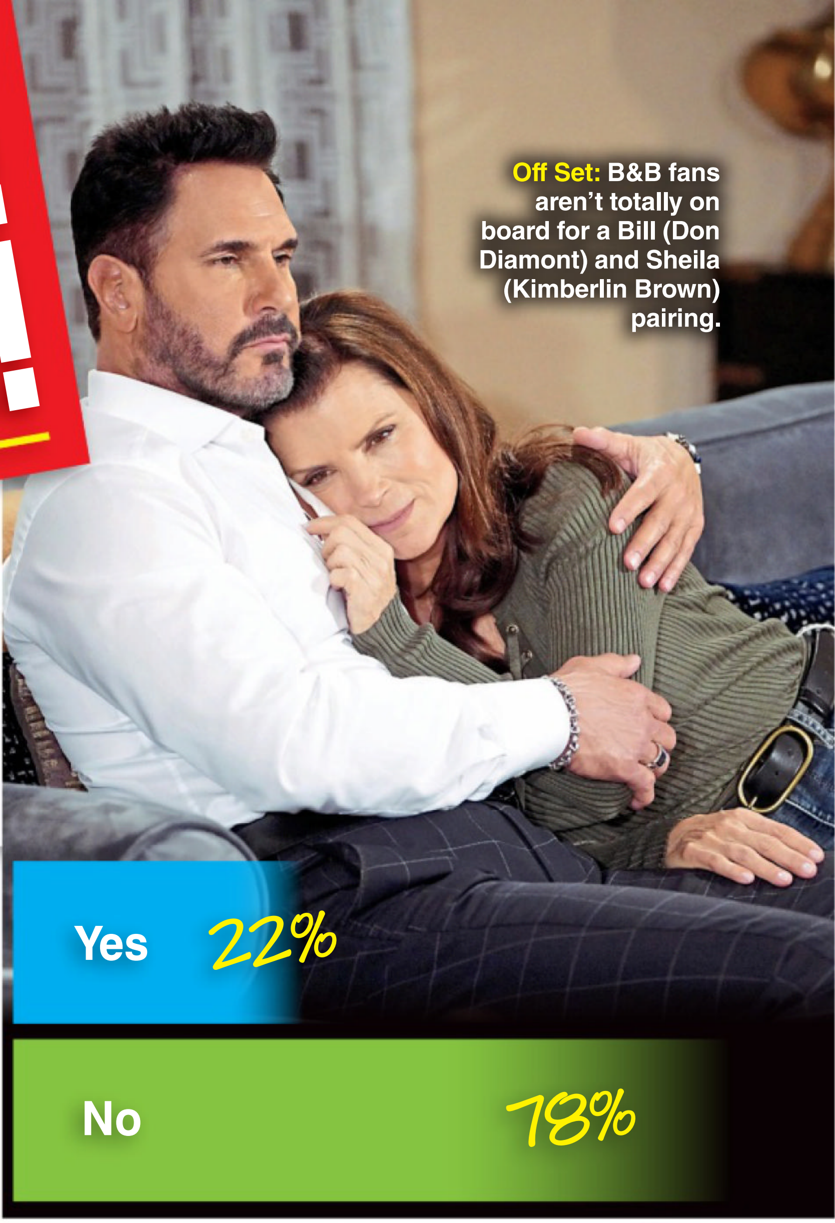
INSTAGRAM/WINTER

EXTRA! EXTRA!

snap POLL

Readers of soapoperadigest.com weigh in.

Do B&B's Bill and Sheila make an intriguing match?



Off Set: B&B fans aren't totally on board for a Bill (Don Diamont) and Sheila (Kimberlin Brown) pairing.

HOWARD WISE/JPI

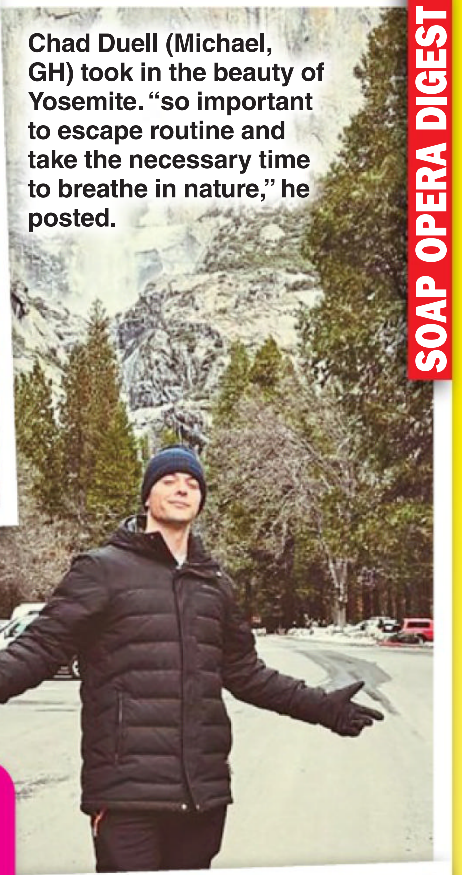
trend temperature

	GH Amnesiac	B&B Blackmailer	Coveted Y&R Necklace
HOT	Esme	Bill	Nikki's
WARM	Sonny	Sheila	Dina's
COLD	Drew	Grace	Katherine's

STAR SHOTS OF THE WEEK

William deVry (ex-Julian, GH et al, l.) and real-life love Rebecca Staab (ex-April, Y&R et al) connected with Kin Shriner (Scott, GH) to celebrate the new year.

TWITTER/DEVRY



Chad Duell (Michael, GH) took in the beauty of Yosemite. "so important to escape routine and take the necessary time to breathe in nature," he posted.

INSTAGRAM/DUELL

Kate Mansi (ex-Abigail, DAYS, r.) shared a shot with Shelley Hennig (ex-Stephanie, DAYS) for the latter's birthday.

INSTAGRAM/MANSI

Cameron Mathison (Drew, GH) showed off his climbing skills.

INSTAGRAM/MATHISON

Christie Clark (ex-Carrie, DAYS) and husband Thomas Barnes posed with daughters (from l.) Emma, 12, Hannah, 14, and Charlotte, 9, in Thailand.

INSTAGRAM/CLARK

Record This

your handy guide to must-see episodes

PHOTOS: HOWARD WISE/JPI

Bold And Beautiful

Owned And Operated

On **Tuesday, January 24**, Sheila pays a visit to the new proprietor of Il Giardino — Deacon.... Thomas is confident he'll be back in the FC fold on **Thursday, January 26**.... On **Friday, January 27**, Finn puts Sheila (both l.) in her place during a chance encounter.

Days Of Our Lives

Cold Comfort

On **Monday, January 23**, Wendy comforts Tripp, who's upset about his mother.... Eric seeks solace in Sloan's arms, and Stephanie gets a visit from Paulina on **Tuesday, January 24**.... On **Wednesday, January 25**, EJ drops a bomb on Li, and Stefan kicks off his plan to get back at EJ.... Nicole has a scratchy encounter with Sloan, and Stefan's revenge plot ensnares an unintended victim on **Thursday, January 26**.... On **Friday, January 27**, Gabi manipulates Li; a drugged Nicole tells EJ (both r.) she wants to make love; and Sloan leaves a bad impression on Roman.

XJ JOHNSON/JPI

General Hospital

Pressing Problems

Spencer surprises Sonny; Ava (r.) and Austin find common ground; and Dante sets a deadline for Heather on **Monday, January 23**.... On **Tuesday, January 24**, Sonny presses Dex; Laura is there for Liz; and Anna and Valentin do some exploring.... Carly confides in Josslyn on **Wednesday, January 25**, while Laura warns Martin, and Spencer and Trina have questions for Cam.... Cody makes a connection; Drew makes his feelings clear; and Trina questions Spencer's motives on **Thursday, January 26**.

TROY HARVEY/ABC

Young And Restless

Game On

On **Monday, January 23**, Victor retaliates against a rival, and Nikki (r.) uncovers Diane's latest scheme.... Phyllis makes a promise to Daniel on **Tuesday, January 24**, while Billy and Chelsea discuss their future, and Devon and Lily struggle to find common ground.... On **Thursday, January 26**, Tucker crosses the line, and Phyllis turns on the charm.... Victor strategizes to expand his empire on **Friday, January 27**, while Billy makes a confession to Chelsea, and Victoria pushes Tucker's buttons.

TV TIME

On **Monday, January 23**, on ALL AMERICAN, when Laura throws Billy (r.) a surprise birthday party, everyone comes together to roast him, but Billy has a decision hanging over his head; Spencer makes an effort to do what's best for himself, hoping it helps Olivia and him move on; Jaymee offers some sage advice to Asher about his speech with JJ; and Jordan and Layla get in their first fight over something neither of them could have predicted.... Sarah Michelle Gellar (ex-Kendall, ALL MY CHILDREN, r.) stars in the new Paramount+ series WOLF PACK, debuting on **Thursday, January 26**. On WALKER, Cordell is tipped off that Grey Flag may still have him as their prime target; Trey's involvement in the prior week's case lands him in hot water; and Liam continues to pursue his new business venture, despite his dad's displeasure over his son's new partner.... On **Sunday, January 29**, on THE WAY HOME, Alice falls in love with the past and has her first kiss; Kat starts a job at the local paper; and Del deals with bittersweet memories attached to Colton's boat.

THE CW; STEVE DIETL/PARAMOUNT+

Please Note: These are the scheduled air dates, released to us by the networks and TV production companies at press time. Due to last-minute pre-emptions, actual air dates may vary.

thumbs up! and down!

Best Of Show Or
Worse For Wear?
Digest Decides.

thumbs up!

BOLD AND BEAUTIFUL

The Boys Are Back

One of the few nonhead-scratching things about Bill and Sheila's surprise pairing on B&B is the fact that Liam and Wyatt have come together again. Darin Brooks (Wyatt), who was absent from the canvas for most of last year, was back in fine comedic form as Wyatt and Scott Clifton's Liam tried to figure out what was going on with their dad. Their hunting around his house searching for clues, turning up indications that Sheila was in the mix, was a hoot, with the actors' natural sibling chemistry on full display as they delivered their witty dialogue. From the humorous (talking over one another as they squabbled) to the heartfelt (admitting that they were afraid Bill was going back to the dark side), the scenes reminded us of what a value-add the brothers are to the show. We hope to see more of their shenanigans as they attempt to ride to Bill's rescue.

B&B's Wyatt (Darin Brooks, l.) and Liam (Scott Clifton)

HOWARD WISE/JPI

thumbs down!

YOUNG AND RESTLESS

The Odd Couple

We love a good surprise pairing — provided the unexpected romantic connection between two characters is plausible and well-developed, that is. Unfortunately, we are unconvinced that Chance and Sharon, who certainly seem to be inching toward a hookup, meet this standard. They are both lonely souls (she's a fairly recent widow; he just split from unfaithful

Applause, Applause

Britt's birthday party had many cute touches on GH, but our favorite was her duet with Brad, a lovely last hurrah for the besties.... Nice use of history to have Y&R's Michael ask Danny how his remaining kidney is functioning (Michael donated it to save Danny's life in 1998).... B&B's Jacqueline MacInnes Wood nailed Steffy's incredulous, indignant reaction to Bill blackmailing her to help Sheila.

Picky Picky

Even though they're not blood relatives, DAYS's Chad and Stephanie reminding each other that they're family and will always be connected makes a potential romance feel strangely icky.... GH's Dante told Sam that he's never covered up one of Sonny's crimes before. Um, did we miss him not covering up Sonny shooting Dante in the chest in 2010?

wife Abby), not to mention gorgeous and charming, but putting them together feels plot-driven, as though the writers are at a loss as to who else to pair them with. It's hard to buy that these two would suddenly come to view one another as potential partners — not because of their age difference, but because of their *experience* difference, which highlights what dramatically disparate places they are in their lives. Not to mention, Sharon has been with younger men before, and also with cops, so the idea of a Chance/Sharon liaison doesn't feel as fresh as it could. We're all for a steamy fling between them — but only if its function is to help Sharon get her groove back and transitions her into a more emotionally meaty relationship and storyline.

thumbs up!

GENERAL HOSPITAL

Take The Plunge

Esme's escape from her Wyndemere prison — the very-pregnant vixen hurled herself from the tower into the icy waters below — made for a juicy reset to her storyline and created dynamic ripple effects across the canvas. Spencer and Trina were on the verge of sharing their long-awaited first kiss when Esme materialized, sopping wet and quivering, and collapsed on the pier. They were shocked — especially at the sight of her protruding belly bump. At G.H., proverbial nail-biting ensued as Nik, Liz and Ava feared they would soon be busted for their respective roles in Esme's disappearance, but jail was the least of Ava's concerns when she found out Esme was expecting — and her furious confrontation of Nikolas was soapy gold, replete with chef's-kiss jaw drops from the peanut gallery (namely Laura and Trina). Opposite all of this, Esme regained consciousness — with a wicked case of amnesia, which not only keeps her out of jail (for now), but raises the stakes for everyone in her orbit. This clever twist had instant payoff and sets the stage for months of classic drama.

Performer Of The Week

Camila Banus

(GABI, DAYS)

HOWARD WISE/PEACOCK

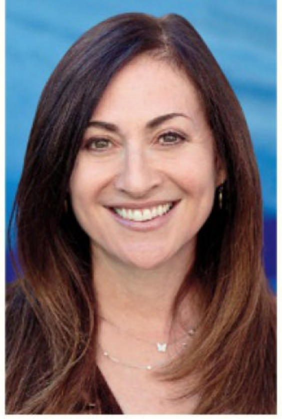
Gabi's newlywed bliss screeched to an epic halt when she found out that Li had deceived her, and Camila Banus was riveting as she unleashed her character's shock, disappointment and fury.

One minute, Gabi was radiating happiness as she basked in the glow of her "I do's" — but then her face darkened. Dazed and sullen as her champagne glass crashed to the floor, she flashed to confronting Rolf in his lab. Back in the present, she tried to piece together the full story of what she was recalling. Gabi's determination and resolve was obvious as her memories flooded back and she realized that the twisted scheme to brainwash Stefan was Li's idea. Banus alternated between heartbreak and outrage; her eyes gleamed with rage and her face twisted into a scowl as she hissed, "It was you." Recalling Li's most brutal act, she was revolted ("You tried to murder the man that I love!"), railing at him in disgust, rebuffing his efforts to take her somewhere to talk. "Don't touch me," she spat, pushing her hand out to block him.

After Rafe handcuffed Li and carted him away, Gabi raced to Miami — specifically, Stefan's hotel room, where she found him in bed with Chloe. ("Oh, man, *really*?!" she groaned, stomping her foot.) But Gabi held her head high, and with near-manic urgency, pleaded with Stefan to search for Rolf with her so he could undo his brainwashing. She was flabbergasted when he refused — but undeterred. Alone in the hallway, Gabi pep-talked herself in a soothing tone, assuring herself, "It's just gonna take some time."

Banus's impassioned performance made Gabi's two-episode journey from bamboozled bride to fierce crusader a joy to behold, leaving no doubt in our minds as to whether Gabi will triumph in the end.

editor's note


JIM WARREN

Dear Readers,

I have talked often about how DAYS was my favorite soap in the mid-'80s, and how I was all-in on the supercouples, but I don't know if I've ever described how much I also loved the dynamic of Tony/Anna/Alex/Calliope. There was just something about the way this group, who got to play more of the humorous beats during those years, interacted with each other on screen that made every scene they were in must-see. It certainly made a Quinn Redeker fan out of me. He had such a commanding presence, not to mention that voice and dazzling smile. I never got the opportunity to meet him, but Senior Writer Devin Owens did when Quinn was on Y&R as Rex Sterling, and shares, "I used to see Quinn quite frequently at the neighborhood coffee house where I hung out. That guy always had a big smile on his face, while buzzing around tables, enthusiastically chatting with people, whether they were friends, colleagues or fans. I only had to approach him once in 1997 (shortly after I joined *Digest*) to introduce myself and that's all it took to be a friend for life. From then on, he would greet me with that big welcoming grin as he genuinely wanted to know what kind of day I was having. There was never a false note or an ego to stroke with Quinn Redeker and I have no doubt that opinion is shared by everyone who knew him."

May he rest in peace.

Stephanie Sloane

Stephanie Sloane,
VP, Editorial Director

soap OPERA digest

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923472-E97801

By Carolyn Hinsey

It's Only My Opinion

Daytime's most outspoken columnist!

Follow Carolyn on Twitter @carolynhinsey

■ When should a soap kill a character off? That depends.

■ It's a tough call when the actor dies. I like how B&B's original Sally Spectra is still floating out there sipping tropical drinks on remote islands (RIP Darlene Conley), and DAYS has been vague about what happened to Stefano DiMera (RIP Joe Mascolo), a.k.a. The Phoenix, who always rose again.

But John Aniston was pivotal to the action for over 35 years and made Victor Kiriakis such a beloved, larger-than-life character that I think his absence will need to be addressed. Aniston was 89 when he passed and we had watched him slow down in recent years, so a tribute to both the actor and his character could be a joyous celebration of life. DAYS could start with the montage that aired December 26 after Aniston's last episode and build from there.

Victor: "I have something to say."

Vivian: "You can't object at your own wedding."

Victor: "Says who? I've let you get away with a lot because I don't listen to most of what you say."

Cut to his many weddings, bitchfests, loved ones, exes, mistakes.

Victor *(to Maggie)***:** "You inspire me to be a better man."

Those scenes felt different because —unlike most other DAYS characters who have "died" — we know Victor won't be back. He and John Aniston deserve a heartfelt, meaningful tribute with the whole cast paying their respects.

You'd think B&B's Sheila would have used up her nine lives by now.

■ The same goes for GH's Nurse Epiphany Johnson. Sonya Eddy's death at age 55 is a much sadder milestone because it was so unexpected and she had so much life ahead of her. It also struck a chord with viewers because her character was working hard to pass the MCAT exam and become a doctor, an unusual progression on this venerable soap set in a hospital. Epiphany was struggling to succeed and leave her mark on the world which all fans could relate to, and the bemused sarcasm she brought to her job was everybody.

Harmony *(making demands in 2022 at G.H. after Willow fainted)***:** "Is there someone who could move her up on the list?"

Epiphany: "Not above me. I'm the head nurse."

Sigh ... grab a tissue and watch her sing "You're Not Alone" at the 2014 Nurses' Ball. RIP.

On a brighter note, Britt's exit was well-orchestrated. From the acceleration of her disease to her mother's meltdown to Sonny about it (he comforted her, which was big of him considering

Fond Farewell: DAYS's Maggie (Suzanne Rogers) and Victor's (John Aniston) romance was part of a montage tribute to Aniston after his last episode.

JOHNSON/JPI

Obrecht once kidnapped his grandson Rocco) to her decision to plan a killer party to see herself out.

Brad: "I designed a cocktail: The Britch."

Maxie *(nixing that)*: "I know Britt's likes and dislikes. I'm family."

Brad: "I'm family, too. Chosen family."

That was an excellent note, considering millions of people spent the holidays with their chosen families while this story was airing. Britt made Brad and Maxie work together which laid the foundation for an entertaining duo going forward, got a boffo photo montage, and shared tender good-byes with Austin, Brad and Maxie before getting the hook and a wrenching good-bye with her "mutter."

Obrecht *(apologizing)*: "A mother should be someone who inspires you, not someone you have to survive.... [*To Britt's body*] Where does that energy go? It can't just disappear. Godspeed, Britta."

Watching Nikolas spiral down will ease his exit, too. Laura gave her son an ace speech pleading with him to listen to his better angels but it was too late for the cheating kidnapper.

Laura: "I have to find a way to help Nikolas."

Ava: "And you came to me?"

Nikolas already "died" in 2016 so here's hoping he just disappears until the inevitable recast.

■ Y&R prefers to recast rather than kill characters when their portrayers quit or don't work out (Summer, Chance) but it also works to just write them off until the original actor comes back (Daniel, Danny Romalotti).

Daniel: "How about I get us a round of drinks?"

Phyllis: "I have to be anywhere but here."

Summer: "Mom, please!"

The mixture of OG and recast works because longtime fave Phyllis is the glue with both her children. Look at the pretzel Y&R had to twist themselves into for Diane to return after she died *on camera.*

■ You'd think B&B's Sheila would have used up her nine lives by now, but a surprise savior surfaced in a storm.

Bill *(to Steffy)*: "You go to the police? I go to the police."

Let's review: In 2018, Taylor shot Bill after he slept with her vulnerable daughter; Steffy convinced Bill not to press charges.

Steffy: "You're blackmailing me? Threatening my mother's freedom?"

That unresolved chestnut jumpstarted two stories: It let Sheila off the hook (for now) and showed Finn he doesn't know his wife as well as he thought he did.

Finn: "You and Bill?!"

Steffy: "My mother thought he took advantage, that's why she shot him."

Sheila is a solid villain who has been killed off many times, but this time she shot her own son which makes it hard to see a path forward. The explanation that she had been secretly living with (and loving) Bill when she was parked on Deacon's couch literally the week before is too farfetched even for a character who cut off her own toe to convince her enemies she had been eaten by a bear (!).

Sheila *(toasting with Bill)*: "A man who truly cares for me."

Bill: "Are you ready?"

He called the cops, knowing the scheme to get Sheila released by blackmailing Steffy was in his back pocket. It remains to be seen whether letting Sheila live to fight another day will be worth ruining Bill Spencer.

Bill: "I need a woman I can't hurt."

Steffy: "What's wrong with you?"

Excellent question.

■ Hey. It's only my opinion. ☐

HOWARD WISE/JPI

BEST IN SHOW

TRACEY E. BREGMAN LOOKS BACK AT 40 YEARS OF PLAYING LAUREN ON Y&R AND B&B

By Devin Owens

What's the best thing about playing Lauren? "First of all, you get to wear some great fashion, plus I've had some remarkable, wonderful storylines and I got really lucky to win the co-star lottery every time."

What was the best thing about playing a bad girl, which Lauren was at first? "Well that was just so much fun, and, when I wasn't saying hurtful things to Beth Maitland's character [Traci], I really loved finding the joy and the juice in that. No bad girl thinks she's bad, but I think Lauren was aware of her manipulations for a long time and there was some power that she felt from that. It was never, 'I don't know why I'm like this'; she knew what she was doing. What made it fun playing a bad character is finding the truth in that as to why that character can feel that way."

Good Humor Man: Doug Davidson (Paul) was Bregman's source for a lot of laughs.

COURTESY EVERETT COLLECTION

What was the best thing about working with Doug Davidson (Paul)? "Well, first of all, it's really what's the best/worst thing about working with Doug? He's one of the funniest humans on earth and when I could detect a glint in his eye, I'd be done. Doug makes me laugh like nobody's business. We also never knew what was going to happen on tape. It didn't matter how many times we rehearsed, we never knew what was going to come out of our mouths and how a scene would go, so there was this sort of like a crackling excitement from that."

Perfect Pitch: Bregman enjoyed her early days with Michael Damian (Danny) and Beth Maitland (Traci).

CBS

What was the best thing about working with Beth? "We became instant besties. It was like Camp Genoa City because we were really young and we were working crazy hours back then. It was, like, 12-to-15 hour days and then we'd learn 20-to-40 pages of dialogue a day, and we were working four and five days a week. Then we were recording music at night, so it was just an immersive experience. Of course, Beth is so incredible and we had so much fun together for a solid two years. I had to say such awful things to Beth [in scenes], and she will graciously tell you that I cried about it because it was so hard for me. Some of it was a lot of fun, but when it was really personal, I could barely get those words out of my mouth. And Beth is such a pro."

What was the best thing about working with Michael Damian (Danny)? "He is just the sweetest, kindest, most fun guy. Beth and I were talking recently about him and we said no matter what he's done in his life, he has not changed one iota from the nice guy I met in 1983. He's adorable and I've been there at the premieres of the movies he's directed and a lot of other wonderful things and he always takes time to talk to me."

What was the best thing about working with Kimberlin Brown (Sheila)? "Kimberlin and I had so many physical fights and we really trusted each other. I was always in heels or bugle beads and I was sliding all over the place, while she was in tennis shoes or boots, so she was able to hold on to me and keep me from falling. Let me tell you, Kimberlin is an extraordinary Sheila. She played that character for all it's worth and did an incredible job."

What was the best thing about the famous baby-switch story, which introduced Sheila? "It gave us a lot of interesting story to play, that's for sure. It was built around my [real-life] pregnancy, so I got to work all the way up to a few days before I delivered. It was a wild story — and long. In those days, soaps took their time with stories and they could last up to a year or more. Just when you thought there was going to be progress [with Lauren's story] with Sheila's mother, Molly, revealing the truth, she had a stroke and couldn't communicate. Now, this was the problem with working with Doug. I had all these scenes with this wonderful actress [Marilyn Alex] who played Molly, and because the character had a stroke, something happened to her head. I guess the way they put her head thing on, Doug said, 'She looks like a Q-tip.' That was the last time I could make eye contact with this poor actress. But the story slowly unfolded and the audience became really invested in the story. It was beautifully constructed."

Epic Proportions: Lauren's bitter feud with Sheila (Kimberlin Brown) was legendary on two soaps.

CBS

What do you consider the best plot twist? "When Lauren's father, Neil Fenmore, died. I didn't see that coming and I was shocked. I was so part of the whole music thing and it was a huge departure overnight, but it turned out to be great and took Lauren into a whole other direction."

What was Lauren's best wedding? "Well, the one with Michael was so much fun because there was also a lot of other stuff going on. The only scary part about the wedding is that I had to deliver my monologue at five minutes to 1:00 and then they were pulling the plug — no pressure! Other than that it was a really fun wedding. I remember being nervous, like I was actually getting married. At this point, I was married in real life, so I don't know why I was so nervous about this one. It was kind of funny. Oh, and you know who helped run lines with me that day? Bill Hayes [Doug, DAYS]. He sat with me in my dressing room while everyone else was doing their scenes and ran the vows with me until I felt comfortable. That's such a great memory to have with him."

Linked In: Lauren and Michael (Christian J. LeBlanc) are close pals with Phyllis (Michelle Stafford).

AARON MONTGOMERY/JPI

What's the best thing about working with Christian J. LeBlanc (Michael)? "He's an extraordinary man and an amazing actor. He's intelligent and intelligently funny. There isn't a day that I go into work and don't belly-laugh. We have a similar sense of humor and we're silly, and that's like a drug to me. Going into an environment where you are full-on laughing every single day is pretty extraordinary."

Who is Lauren's best friend? "Phyllis. What I like about them is they can disapprove of what each other does and they can even not like each other for periods of time, but they love each other and at the end of the day they'll show up for each other."

What's the best thing about working with Michelle Stafford (Phyllis)? "First of all, we're very close in real life, so to be able to bring our friendship onto the screen really fills in all the spaces for Lauren and Phyllis. It's a lot of fun to work with people that you love and adore. She's an incredible actress so you have to bring your A game. What I love about working with her is that I can read a scene one way, and inevitably she will always surprise me."

What was your best storyline? "I really loved the story of Michael and Lauren coming together over Kevin and how we then had to walk away from each other for Kevin. I thought that was beautifully done, and then getting Kevin well and Michael proposing. Christian and I had a huge hand in that. Everyone thought it was a horrible idea to put us together, but we knew it could work. Until then, we just played sex in every scene that we were in because we really wanted to work together. [Then-Head Writer] Jack Smith was 'No, no, no!' and we were like, 'Yes, yes, yes!' until we wore him down and he wrote us the most beautiful love story."

What was your best location shoot? "That would be Lake Como, Italy when I was on BOLD AND BEAUTIFUL. For Y&R, I only went to San Francisco, Griffith Park, Tahoe and the CBS parking lot. All of Italy is in love with BOLD AND BEAUTIFUL, so there were crowds and craziness wherever we went. The minute the sun went down we all got to play."

What was the best thing about working on B&B? "It was really an amazing experience because when I was there, those were the days when we would come in, block our scenes and then break for lunch, so the cast and crew all spent a lot of time together going to lunch. We would talk and laugh and get to know each other across tables. It was almost like doing summer stock."

What was the best thing about working Susan Flannery (ex-Stephanie)? "That it was so much fun because we were very good friends off camera as well. Whenever we were on location shoots in Italy or in New York for the [Daytime] Emmys, Susan was always the ringleader on what activities we were doing. She'd be like, 'Okay, we're going here, and we're doing this, we're doing that', and you didn't dare tell her that you were too tired."

What's the best thing about working with John McCook (Eric)? "Like Doug, John would make me laugh so hard before every scene. He is just hilarious, and so sweet and loving. We just really had a great time working together."

What was your best Daytime Emmy moment? "That I got to win [for Outstanding Ingenue] the same year as my best friend, Beth [for Outstanding Supporting Actress]."

What's the best thing about working at Y&R? "I would have to say everyone there is 100 percent committed to making the best show. After all of these years, every single person I work with today has the same work ethic and that's what makes going to work so much fun."

Maternal Instinct: Bregman loved switching to mom mode with soap son Zach Tinker (Fenmore; Sonny, DAYS)

HOWARD WISE/JPI

What's the best thing about playing Lauren as a mom? "Having the cutest TV sons, Daniel [Hall, ex-Scott] and Zach [Tinker, Fenmore; Sonny, DAYS]. There was an instant rapport and comfort with both of them, but I don't really get to play Lauren as a mom a lot."

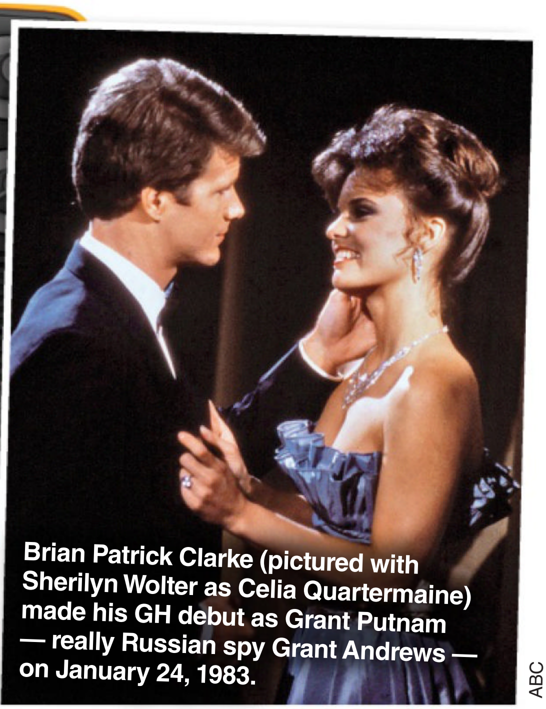
Hats Right: Lauren and Sally's (Darlene Conley) B&B escapades included sneaking into the Forrester exclusive fashion show in Italy.

JOHN PASCHAL/JPI

What was the best thing about working with Darlene Conley (ex-Sally)? "That was when I got to play some comedic moments and working with Darlene will do that. Talk about never knowing what's going to come out of someone's mouth. I could have one line because she could talk for an entire page or she could have a monologue and she'll say one line of it and stop. She was so brilliant and fun and funny and very interesting. She was larger than life and I'm so glad I got to spend the time with her."

THIS WEEK IN SOAP OPERA HISTORY

Digest looks back on standout moments from the past.



Brian Patrick Clarke (pictured with Sherilyn Wolter as Celia Quartermaine) made his GH debut as Grant Putnam — really Russian spy Grant Andrews — on January 24, 1983.

ABC

On January 26, 1984, Thomas Ian Griffith (with Mary Page Keller as Sally) first appeared on ANOTHER WORLD as Catlin Ewing.

NBC

In heaven, AW's Ryan (Paul Michael Valley) and Vicky (Jensen Buchanan) exchanged vows in a celestial ceremony on January 24, 1997.

BARRY MORGENSTEIN

On January 23, 2004, GH's Sonny (Maurice Benard) slept with Sam (Kelly Monaco) after seeing Carly smooching Alcazar.

SCOTT GARFIELD/ABC

PAUL SKIPPER/JPI

DAYS's Salem Stalker poured blood over Thaao Penghlis's "Tony" (later revealed to be Andre), then unleashed a tiger on him, on January 26, 2004.

GEORGE DE SOTA/JPI

In 2008, AS THE WORLD TURNS's Rosanna (Cady McClain) slipped back into a coma on January 28, devastating Paul (Roger Howarth).

STEVE FENN/ABC

Much to the shock of ALL MY CHILDREN's Bianca (Eden Riegel, c.) and Greenlee (Rebecca Budig, near l.), Kendall (Alicia Minshew) emerged from a months-long coma on January 29, 2009.

SEAN SMITH/JPI

On January 25, 2016, B&B's Brooke (Katherine Kelly Lang) told Bill (Don Diamont) that he was the love of her life, but Katie could never know how she felt ... unaware that a sobbing Katie had overheard every word.

Q roundup

Who would you trade

MICHAEL MATTES/SHUTTERSTOCK; ERIC CHARBONNEAU/SHUTTERSTOCK

Robert Scott Wilson (Alex, DAYS)
"I probably would have said my boy Tom Brady, but he's been having a rough go the last couple of months, so I'll go with Leonardo DiCaprio [r.]. I'd love to be able to have a crack at a couple of his roles. I'd have had a good time stepping into some of the things he's done in his past."

EUGENE POWERS/SHUTTERSTOCK; JOHN ANGELILLO/SHUTTERSTOCK

Tabyana Ali (Trina, GH)
"Naomi Campbell [r.]. She's beautiful and fierce. Her walk is the reason we have thunder and rain!"

HOWARD WISE/JPI

Michael Graziadei (Danny, Y&R)
"Michelle Stafford [Phyllis]. She's fierce and has no boundaries."

MARCO PROVVISIONATO/SHUTTERSTOCK

Jennifer Gareis (Donna, B&B)
"I know I've said this before, but I would love to trade places with Angelina Jolie [r.] for a day, just to see what's in her closet! I think that would take at least a day!"

places with for a day?

HOWARD WISE/JPI; EARL GIBSON III/SHUTTERSTOCK

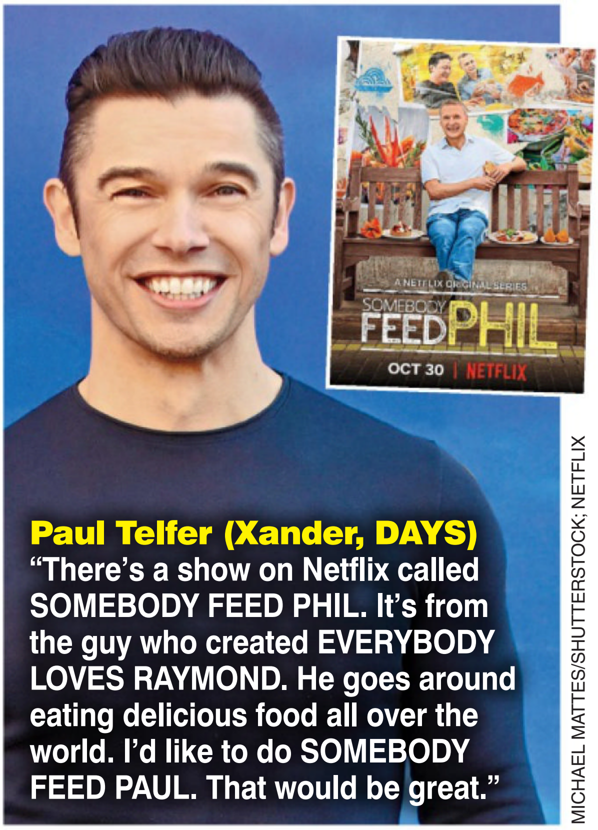
Alley Mills (Heather, GH; Pam, B&B)
"Karen Bass [r.], the new mayor of Los Angeles. I'd love to know what she's facing and what she plans to do about the issue of homelessness. Even though it would probably be a dreadful day, it would be interesting, because I'm sort of obsessed with all of that."

Scott Clifton (Liam, B&B)
"Jeff Bezos [r.], and in that one day, I'd give $100 billion dollars to cancer research."

PHOTOS: KATHY HUTCHINS/SHUTTERSTOCK; DAVID FISHER/SHUTTERSTOCK

JILL JOHNSON/JPI; CAMILA MORANDI/SHUTTERSTOCK

Kate Linder (Esther, Y&R)
"Meryl Streep [r.] because she's so incredibly talented and I would love to step in her shoes for even one hour!"



Paul Telfer (Xander, DAYS)
"There's a show on Netflix called SOMEBODY FEED PHIL. It's from the guy who created EVERYBODY LOVES RAYMOND. He goes around eating delicious food all over the world. I'd like to do SOMEBODY FEED PAUL. That would be great."

MICHAEL MATTES/SHUTTERSTOCK; NETFLIX

crossword

BY DONNA HOKE

THINK OF LAUREN

1		2	3	4	■	■	5	6		7	8	9
	■	10				11			■	12		
13	14				■	15			■	16		
17					■	18			19			
■		■	■	■	20			■		■	■	
21		22	23	24		■	■	25		26		
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29					■	■	30				31	
	■	■		■	32	33		■	■	■		■
34	35	36		37			■	38	39	40		41
42			■	43			■	44				
45			■	46							■	
47						■	■	48				

ACROSS

1. Doug's love (DAYS)
5. *LAUREN'S LONG-TIME RIVAL*
10. *EMMY TITLE 47 ACROSS WAS THE FIRST TO WIN (NOW CALLED YOUNGER ACTRESS)*
12. One of Dorian's husbands (ONE LIFE TO LIVE)
13. *DAYS ROLE FOR 47 ACROSS*
15. Spring mo.
16. Devon's sister (Y&R)
17. Expand one's living space, say (two words)
18. *SEE 47 ACROSS*
20. CIA-like organization on DAYS; abbr.
21. Ex of Kevin Buchanan (OLTL)
25. "Do That To __ __ More Time" (1980 smash, two words)
27. *47 ACROSS'S MOVE FROM Y&R TO B&B, SAY*
29. *47 ACROSS'S DIETARY PREFERENCE*
30. "___ Girl"
32. "Bottomless" hole
34. *SURNAME OF LAUREN'S CURRENT SPOUSE*
38. At a high level (two words)
42. *Madame Butterfly* accessory
43. BAREFOOT CONTESSA host Garten
44. *BRIEF Y&R ROLE FOR 47 ACROSS*
45. "Six-pack" muscles
46. *LAUREN'S SECOND BORN*
47. *WITH 18 ACROSS, THE SUBJECT OF THIS PUZZLE WHO HAS PLAYED LAUREN FOR 40 YEARS*
48. *FATHER OF LAUREN'S FIRSTBORN*

DOWN

1. DAYS role for Elia Cantu
2. "Swedish Nightingale" Jenny
3. " __ __ uncertain terms" (two words)
4. Y&R's Melissa Claire (Chelsea)
5. Toyota sports hatchback
6. "California, ___ I come ..."
7. Mosque VIP
8. Y&R's Dr. Cavett
9. Fourth person to walk on the moon (two words)
11. Apprehends
14. Garfield's canine pal
19. "Meet" companion
20. Connections
21. Captain Stubing helmed this, with THE (two words)
22. Arrhythmia detector, briefly
23. "It's _ ___!" (speak-easy cry, two words)
24. French refusal
25. All-Star Game award
26. Spanish gold
28. In or ___?

Answers can be found in the next issue.

sudoku

Fill in the grid so that every row, every column and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1 through 9. You can't change the digits already provided in the grid; you have to work around them.

	3	5		6		7	8	
			1					4
	2							
3		9		1		6	2	
			9	3	7			
	1	7		2		3		5
							3	
9					1			
	7	2		4		9	5	

31. "Amazing!"
32. How some household cleansers smell
33. Put __ __ appearance (two words)
35. Short, for short
36. GH's LoCicero (Olivia)
37. *PAUL WAS THE FIRST TO CALL LAUREN THIS*
38. Centers for G.I.'s; abbr.
39. *Jardin du Luxembourg, par exemple*
40. iPhone rival, once
41. It was cool once

ANSWERS FROM LAST ISSUE

B	R	A	D	L	E	Y	B	A	K	E	R	■
T	A	D	A	■	L	O	U	■	I	K	E	A
O	F	A	N	■	I	R	R	■	M	E	D	S
■	E	M	T	S	■	I	T	E	M	■	■	H
■	■	■	E	P	I	C	■	X	Y	Z	■	F
S	A	M	■	E	L	K	■	W	■	A	D	O
C	H	A	N	C	E	■	F	I	S	H	E	R
O	A	T	■	T	■	B	E	V	■	N	E	D
R	■	T	O	R	■	R	U	E	R	■	■	■
P	■	■	N	A	V	Y	■	S	E	A	N	■
I	S	P	Y	■	I	T	S	■	I	N	O	R
O	T	T	O	■	E	N	O	■	K	N	A	R
■	P	A	U	L	W	I	L	L	I	A	M	S

Scene & Heard

GH's Kin personalized his on-screen proposal to Kathleen.

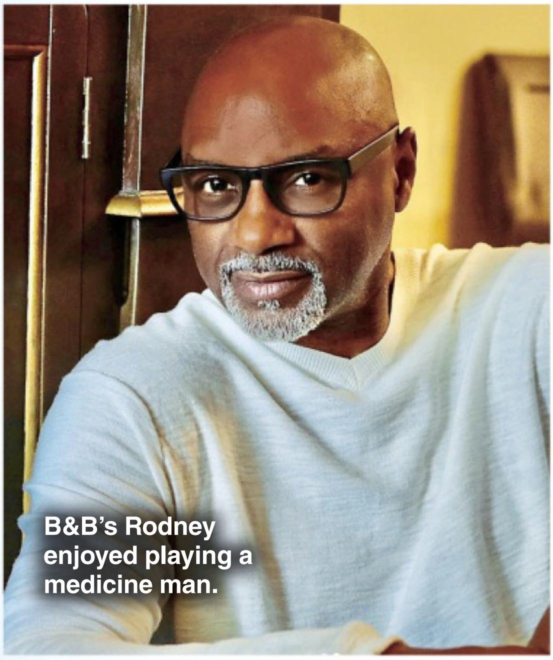
LILIANE LATHAN/ABC

RULES OF ENGAGEMENT

When Scotty impulsively proposed to Liesl during GH's 15,000th episode last year, portrayer **Kin Shriner** put his own spin on the material. He explains, "That morning, I was listening to a **Chubby Checker** song called 'Changes' and the lyrics were, 'I've been running wild through my life, I never knew which way the wind was blowing,' and I thought, 'You know what? I'm going to see if I can incorporate that into my proposal to Obrecht to jazz it up!' I didn't think that they would really care because the gag was, she said no and that I did it in front of all of those women! I thought, 'What fool would propose to his new girlfriend in front of five women? And three of them [Bobbie, Laura and Lucy] are his exes!' But our director, **Phideaux** [**Xavier**], said, 'Kin, if Scott proposed at the Metro Court, yeah, it might have worked, but if he proposes to her in front of all his exes, it's going to be funnier!' I said, 'All right!' So, I made a fool out of myself, but I was pleased with it because I was able to tweak it to make it work, and people seemed to enjoy it, which is always what you hope for."

DOCTOR IN THE HOUSE

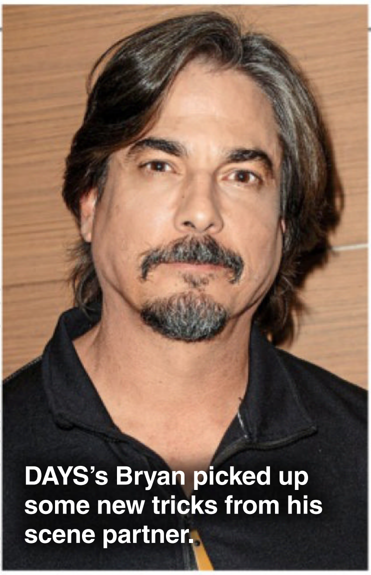
Rodney Van Johnson, who's new to B&B as Sheila's attorney, has fond memories of his run as PORT CHARLES's Sebastian. "I really enjoyed playing a doctor," he enthuses. "It was hard because of all the technical terms you had to say, but it was a fun challenge." Van Johnson's time on the show was particularly memorable, he says, because "I had the chance to work with an incredible actor [**Mitch Longley**, ex-Dr. Matt Harmon] who was in a wheelchair. I had never worked with anyone in a wheelchair before and what was really cool was, at that time, they had him in a wheelchair that stood up [the Parastep 1], and so he could stand up and perform surgery. I remember at that time, **Christopher Reeve** [ex-Ben, LOVE OF LIFE] was [also using a wheelchair to aid in his mobility], so they were trying to get that wheelchair, which was extremely expensive. I would say that story was incredibly memorable, and I really enjoyed working with him. He was great."



B&B's Rodney enjoyed playing a medicine man.

INSTAGRAM/JOHNSON

PRISON PALS



SOUL B. PHOTOS/SHUTTERSTOCK

DAYS's Bryan picked up some new tricks from his scene partner.

Bryan R. Dattilo's latest stint on DAYS as the imprisoned Lucas afforded him the chance to work with **George DelHoyo**, who plays Statesville inmate Orpheus. "That was awesome," says Dattilo. "It's the first time I ever worked with him, ever met him; we never really ran into each other because we didn't have scenes or storyline together." The experience "was hilarious," notes the actor. "When we had our first scenes, he really wanted to rehearse. He was amazing with it. He said, 'Are you sure you're okay?' I said, 'Yeah, I'm fine.' He said, 'Let's do it one more time.' I said, 'Okay, it's up to you,' because I never say no to more rehearsal. Well, we must have rehearsed this thing, I don't know how many times — like, for an hour! The next day George came up to me and said, 'Bryan, I'm so sorry.' I asked, 'Why?' He said, 'I had no idea that you had been on the show for so long. I thought it was your first episode. I just wanted to make sure you felt comfortable.' I told him, 'I just wanted to make sure *you* were comfortable because you kept wanting to run the scene.' It was really funny." Dattilo was impressed by DelHoyo's work. "George has a great pace about him. He doesn't let the rush get to him. He takes his time. I actually picked up a few things from him, which I try to do with everyone I work with, just to really sink my teeth into my work and enjoy it. There are lines that you just don't rush. And he doesn't rush one line."

SURPRISED PARTY

Y&R's **Zuleyka Silver** (Audra) is delighted to be crossing storyline paths with **Trevor St. John** (Tucker). "I think he's extremely talented and I love just observing how he works," the actress praises. "I was talking to him just recently and asked, 'You're so great at using your environment when you're acting. Is that a conscious or subconscious thing?' And he said, 'Oh, it's subconscious.' I really look up to him as an actor and I feel like I'm learning from just watching him. He has the all these little specific mannerisms as Tucker, which I think is just brilliant. He's so fun to work with because he's always surprising me. I'll read a scene and I'll have a certain idea of what I'm going to do, and then he'll sometimes do something completely different. I love that because I don't like to be married to my choices. I'll just play off of him and that's what makes it really fun and surprising on set. When I know we're working together, I get excited, and try to guess, 'What are you gonna do today?' I love that because it reminds me to stay open and just go with him. At the end of the day, it reminds me of why I got into acting."

DON HAMILTON; REY TRAJANO

Y&R's Trevor keeps Zuleyka on her toes.

the write stuff

Former *Soap Opera Digest* Editor-In-Chief **Meredith Berlin** On Her New Novel, ***Friends With Issues***.

By Stephanie Sloane

ALICE SHULMAN

Soap Opera Digest: When did you first start writing this book?

Meredith Berlin: In the early ’90s, I knew a literary agent named Loretta Barrett and she kept saying to me, “Write a book, write a book, write a book.” So I did, but what happened was I was diagnosed in 1999 with multiple sclerosis. I left *Seventeen* [where she was editor-in-chief at the time] and I had said I always wanted to write a book, so I started it. I wrote 100 pages and when I was done, I said, “I love it, I hate it, this is great, this is terrible.” So I was just totally conflicted. I found an editor at Sarah Lawrence College and she helped me. I would bring 20 pages to her one week, she’d edit it, we’d go back and forth. I brought it to Loretta when I was done. She thought it was great, and then different things happened over time. Loretta died and I put the book aside and just kind of forgot about it. My family was always saying, “What about that book, what about that book?” but I just wasn’t ready to commit to it. And then one day I saw BIG LITTLE LIES on television and I said, “Oh, my God, that’s my book.” And what I mean by that is obviously it wasn’t my book, but something in the relationships between the women made me think of my book, the fact that the women were wealthy, but had real problems and they could lean on each other, and I said, “There’s a place for my book in the world.” What was funny is that Robert Rorke [former *Digest* senior editor] and I would speak every once in a while, but also pick up where we left off. Robert had written a great book called *Car Trouble*, and we met Robert for dinner in Brooklyn right after the book came out. We were talking, and I said, “I have those hundreds of pages on the floor. I’m just gonna throw them out,” and he said, “Don’t! Don’t throw them out.” And that got me thinking. Then I moved down to Florida and my college roommate was here and she said, “Come join our writing group.” The first time I read aloud from this book, the person who ran the group — and these are all real writers — threw her hand down and said, “Now that’s a writer.” I thought everyone was going to crush me and they didn’t. So the writing group has been amazing for me. And I started to rewrite it.

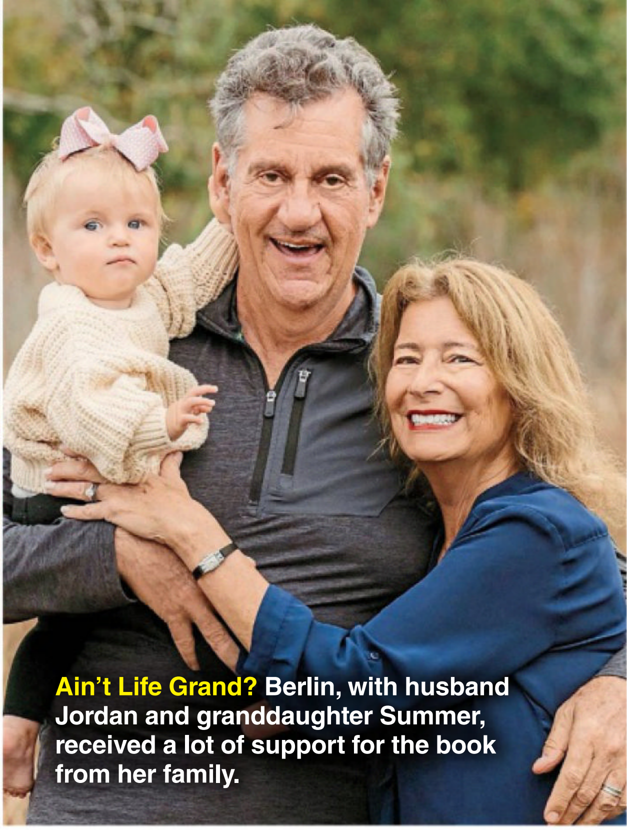
Digest: What is the book about?

Berlin: The book takes place in 1997 and is about three women in their 40s who live in the suburbs of New York. They’ve been very successful and now they’re dealing with the regular, everyday stuff of family and relationships, rediscovering their sexuality and what they want in life. Two of them have known each other since grade school and one is known through her husband. They all have a relationship with this man: He’s one woman’s husband, one woman’s best friend, going back to the ’70s, and one woman’s lover. They’re all at a crossroads in their lives, and over the course of the book, they rediscover themselves.

Digest: Obviously working here gave you a good foundation for storytelling and drama. What is your *Soap Opera Digest* story?

Berlin: I was a kid in college who loved soaps. I did read *Soap Opera Digest* and I loved it, but it bugged me that at the time, the way the printing schedule was, if you got a recap, it was months after it already happened. But I came to the city, I worked in an advertising agency and then I got a job at *Soap Opera Digest* as a feature writer in 1979. The amazing thing was that I had an office with a television in it, and my friends would come and visit me and just be like, “Oh, my God”; they’d be so envious. It was a dream job and I worked for a very nice editor. I was moved up at 26, and I was, I think, the youngest executive editor at that point. I was really lucky because it was at the height of soap operas; it was the ’80s, so soap operas were at the peak of their popularity. My goal when I first went to *Soap Opera Digest* was to do for soap opera what *Rolling Stone* did for rock and roll, which was to make it

Issue Oriented: "They're all at a crossroads in their lives, and over the course of the book, they rediscover themselves," says Berlin of her three main characters in *Friends With Issues*.


Ain't Life Grand? Berlin, with husband Jordan and granddaughter Summer, received a lot of support for the book from her family.

REBECCA LOVE

respectable, to take the readers seriously and treat them with respect and treat the actors with respect. So many people I knew loved soaps, but would never buy the magazine because it was sort of embarrassing to be seen with it.

Digest: The magazine just marked 47 years in November 2022. What does it mean to you that you were such a big part of it?

Berlin: I'm so happy that it has lived that long, I'm so happy that there are still soap operas around. I feel very badly that there aren't as many as there used to be, but I'm kind of hopeful that that might change. There's so much loyalty to the magazine and to the art form and to this kind of entertainment. For a magazine to go that long, it's amazing.

Digest: And how are you feeling these days?

Berlin: One of my doctors said something that I took to heart, which is, "Just live your life," and that's what I did. I've learned to listen to my body. MS is not a disease where when you feel bad you should just push through it. MS is the disease that when you feel bad, you have to listen to your body and stop what you're doing. It mostly affects my speech. I know the word I want to say, but the brain-to-speech thing will sometimes get short-circuited. So I'm actually not going to be the person doing my audio book, if that ever happens.

Digest: What do you hope people take away from the book?

Berlin: I'm hoping that it resonates. I'm proud of myself because this was something that I started in the early '90s, put away and came back to because of friends and family, who said to me, "What about that book?", Robert saying to me, "Don't throw away those pages," my husband and my children always saying, "Do the book, do the book." So I'm really excited, I realize. I'm proud of myself for putting myself out there and being courageous, but more than anything, I'm just hoping that people love the book. ☐

Friends With Issues *will be released on January 24 wherever books are sold. Go to meredithberlin.com for more.*

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classic lines

Forget GHOSTS! Some Of TV's Funniest Lines Are On Soaps.

BOLD AND BEAUTIFUL

(Ridge updates Eric.)
Eric: "So, they dumped you? Brooke and Taylor dumped you?"
Ridge: "Yeah, why don't you say it one more time?"

(Carter wants to try an exercise to calm an anxious Katie.)
Carter: "Do you trust me?"
Katie: "Yes."
Carter: "Close your eyes."
Katie: "I'm not sure I trust you that much."

DAYS OF OUR LIVES

(Gwen and Leo talk about the favor he did for her.)
Gwen: "Oh come on, you know you loved having a tussle with Xander."
Leo: "Okay, it was a bit of a dream come true, only in the dream he was naked, I wasn't wearing a muscle suit but I was wearing a clown mask."

GENERAL HOSPITAL

(Gregory tries to pick up his son's spirits.)
Gregory: "You're doing a good job hiding your pain from Violet."
Finn: "I'm not so sure after what you told me that other day."
Gregory: "Your performance has improved."
Finn: "Thanks?"

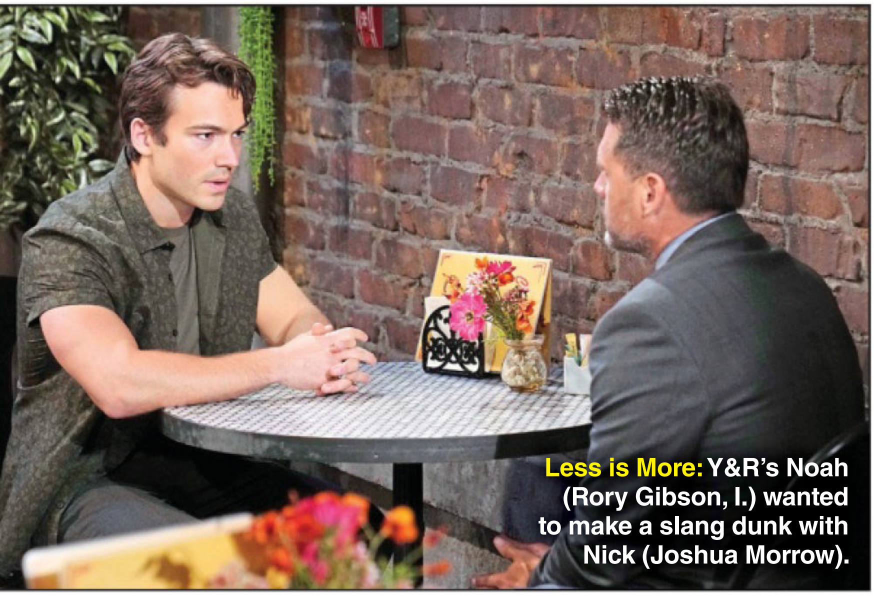
(Nikolas and Spencer talk at Wyndemere.)
Nikolas: "Your grandmother made me a better person."
Spencer: "You were worse than this before?"

YOUNG AND RESTLESS

(Noah notices Nick entering Glam Club.)
Noah: "Hey, Dad, what brings you in tonight?"
Nick: "I figured this place would be on fire right about now with all the holiday cheer in the air."
Noah: "Okay, I'm really sorry about this but I'm actually gonna have to give you a warning. We have a strict, *strict* no-slang policy for people in your age group."
Nick: "That just hurts, son."

(With Ashley outside his hotel room door, Tucker tries to stall her so that Audra can hide in the bathroom.)
Tucker: "Hold on a second. I just gotta get decent."
Ashley: "Well, that's gonna take a while."

(Sally recounts her nomadic childhood as the daughter of carnival workers to Nick.)
Nick: "Did you have friends?"
Sally: "The Tilt-A-Whirl guy was actually really cool."



Less is More: Y&R's Noah (Rory Gibson, l.) wanted to make a slang dunk with Nick (Joshua Morrow).

HOWARD WISE/JPI

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Ava Elise is 17" long and poseable. This collectible doll is not intended for children under 6.

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A Few Of My Fav

Katherine Kelly Lang

(Brooke)

HOWARD WISE/JPI

Favorite Shampoo: "Sometimes they say you're supposed to switch because it's good for your hair, but I have been using the same thing forever. It is Awapuhi. It's a moisturizing shampoo and it really energizes your hair, especially thin hair. It's very hydrating."

Favorite Jeans Brand: "Ramiz."

Favorite Phone App: "Instagram."

Favorite Game: "I used to love backgammon but I haven't played that in a long time. For the phone, Candy Crush. I find it relaxing."

Favorite Type Of Cuisine: "Mexican food."

Favorite Sports Team: "I don't really follow sports right now."

Favorite Breakfast Item: "Eggs."

Favorite Sandwich: "Turkey and cheese."

Favorite Sweet Treat: "Dark chocolate."

Favorite Healthy Snack: "Seaweed. Dried seaweed chips with some salsa is so good."

Favorite Hot Beverage: "Chai tea."

Favorite Cold Beverage: "Lukewarm water."

Favorite Color: "I always go back and forth between blue or green. Green is the color of nature but blue is the color of the ocean. I love them both."

Favorite Magazine: "*Vogue*."

Favorite Book: "Right now I like a good self-help book."

Favorite Item In Your Wardrobe: "Benheart [her clothing store], of course."

OFFICE
Schitts Creek

Favorite Room In Your Home: "Bedroom."

Favorite Sitcom: "SCHITT'S CREEK."

Favorite Movie: "That's hard because there are so many different types of movies, but I love romantic comedies like *Pretty Woman*."

Favorite TV Host: "Drew Barrymore."

Favorite Comedian: "I don't have one currently. I feel bad for the comedians since everything has turned upside down."

Favorite Singer Or Band: "The Rolling Stones."

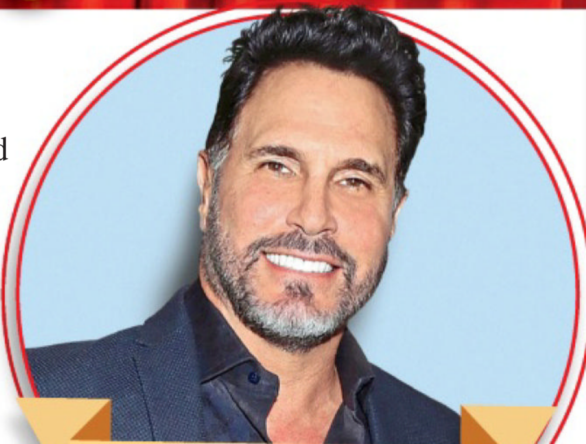
Favorite Place To Learn Lines: "Sitting on my bed. But I also find that I study a lot driving, and I also learn my lines when I'm on the treadmill or the indoor cycle because when I'm doing something like that, it really drives the lines into my head."

Favorite Kitchen Appliance: "Our coffee maker."

Favorite Vacation Spot: "Oh, boy! I love Italy for a vacation, or a beach in Tahiti."

orite Things

Stars share their personal preferences.



KATHY HUTCHINS/SHUTTERSTOCK

Don Diamont

(Bill)

Favorite Shampoo: "Phillip Adam Apple Cider Vinegar. One of the kids turned us on to this on the Yuka app, which basically tells you how horrible or how good things are for you, and you can SKU something in the market or the pharmacy and it gives you a rating and tells you exactly what's in it and exactly why it's rated the way it is."

Favorite Jeans Brand: "I bought three pairs of them because they are so soft: Paige — and J Brand."

Favorite Phone App: "Everyone uses WhatsApp. That's a must. I also like ScanPro, where you can use your phone as a scanner and, of course, ESPN."

Favorite Game: "When I was kid, maybe Yahtzee. And I used to play backgammon with my sister."

Favorite Type Of Cuisine: "Italian, and I love Chinese food, and I love sushi, as well. It's a dead heat."

Favorite Sports Team: "Rams. Lakers. Dodgers. All the L.A. teams."

Favorite Breakfast Item: "Scrambled egg whites with tomato and basil."

Favorite Sandwich: "If I'm eating whatever I want, my favorite sandwich would probably be pastrami on rye with some bold and spicy mustard."

Favorite Sweet Treat: "Chocolate anything but Randy's Donuts, specifically."

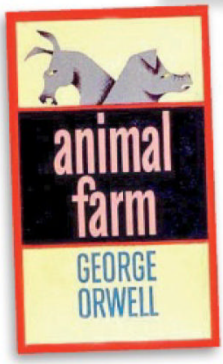
Favorite Healthy Snack: "Blueberries and blackberries mixed together."

Favorite Hot Beverage: "The Amaretto non-fat latte from Eataly."

Favorite Cold Beverage: "The iced Amaretto latte from Eataly. Mexican Coke on ice is nice, too. It's one of the things I rarely have."

Favorite Color: "Black."

Favorite Magazine: "*Soap Opera Digest*!"



Favorite Book: "*Animal Farm*."

Favorite Item In Your Wardrobe: "It's a range from my favorite suits to my favorite sweats."

Favorite Room In Your Home: "The den and the kitchen."

Favorite Sitcom: "FRIENDS. I always call my wife Monica."

Favorite Movie: "*The Godfather I* and *II*. Favorite western is *Tombstone*."

Favorite TV Host: "My favorite was from 60 MINUTES, Morley Safer. That shows you how old I am."

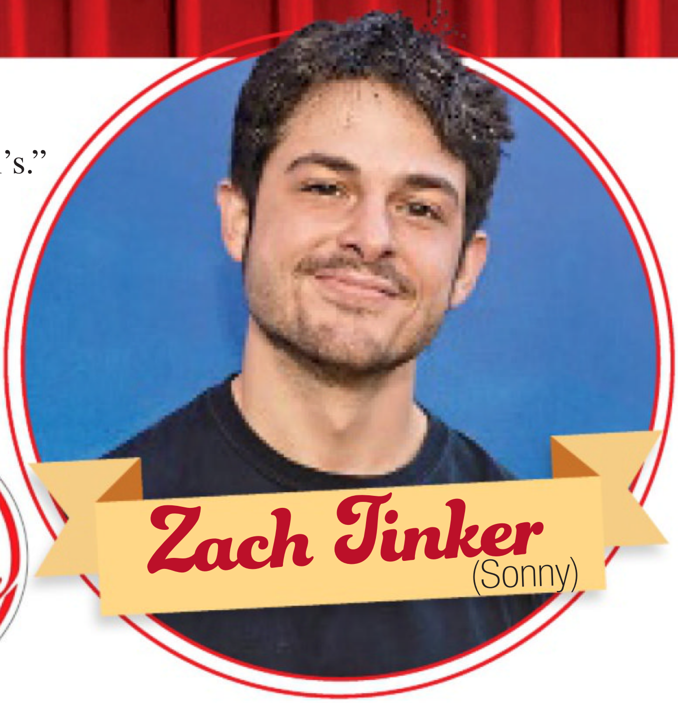
Favorite Comedian: "Bill Burr. Hysterical."

Favorite Singer Or Band: "Elvis."

Favorite Place To Learn Lines: "Either in my dressing room or, if I'm at home, in my office."

Favorite Kitchen Appliance: "My blender. I use it every day. That's how my morning starts."

Favorite Vacation Spot: "We love Hawaii. We also love Lake Como. We love Capri. We love Rome, so it's safe to say Italy in general."



Zach Tinker

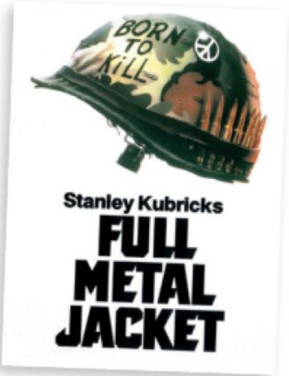
(Sonny)

TODD WILLIAMSON/PEACOCK

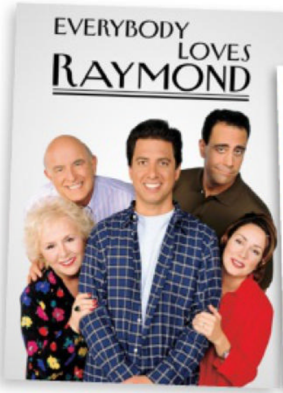
■ **Favorite Shampoo:** "Any shampoo."
Favorite Jeans Brand: "Levi's."
Favorite Phone App: "Twitter."
Favorite Game: "Video games."
Favorite Type Of Cuisine: "Italian."
Favorite Sports Team: "[The New York] Yankees."
Favorite Breakfast Item: "Omelette."
Favorite Sandwich: "Turkey."
Favorite Sweet Treat: "Dried mango."
Favorite Healthy Snack: "Seaweed."
Favorite Hot Beverage: "Coffee."

GEORGE
ORWELL
1984

Favorite Cold Beverage: "Coffee."
Favorite Color: "Orange."
Favorite Magazine: "*Highlights*."
Favorite Book: "*1984*."
Favorite Item In Your Wardrobe: "My grandfather's coat."
Favorite Room In Your Home: "Bedroom."
Favorite Sitcom: "EVERYBODY LOVES RAYMOND."



Favorite Movie: "*Full Metal Jacket*."
Favorite TV Host: "Wayne Brady [ex-Reese, B&B]."
Favorite Comedian: "Louie CK."
Favorite Singer Or Band: "The Beatles."
Favorite Place To Learn Lines: "My house."
Favorite Kitchen Appliance: "Nespresso machine."
Favorite Vacation Spot: "Hawaii."



RIGHTFRAMEPHOTOVIDEO/SHUTTERSTOCK

Martha Madison

(Belle)

AFF-USA/SHUTTERSTOCK

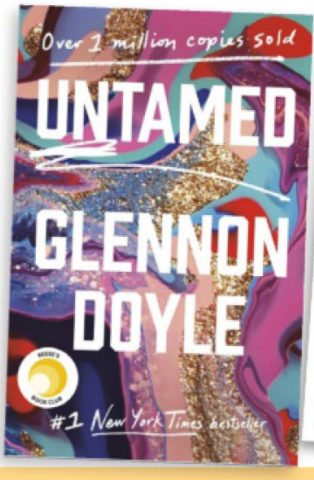
Favorite Shampoo: "Aveda."
Favorite Jeans Brand: "Paige."
Favorite Phone App: "Redfin."
Favorite Game: "Cards Against Humanity."
Favorite Type Of Cuisine: "Italian or Mexican."

Favorite Sports Team: "Texas A&M Aggies."
Favorite Breakfast Item: "Eggs."
Favorite Sandwich: "Tuna or chicken salad."

Favorite Sweet Treat: "Mint chocolate chip ice cream."
Favorite Healthy Snack: "Blueberries."
Favorite Hot Beverage: "Plain black coffee."
Favorite Cold Beverage: "Plain black iced coffee."
Favorite Color: "Blue."
Favorite Magazine: "*Vogue*."
Favorite Book: "*Untamed* by Glennon Doyle."
Favorite Item In Your Wardrobe: "My Uggs."
Favorite Room In Your Home: "My office."

BONCHAN/SHUTTERSTOCK

when harry met sally



Favorite Sitcom: "FRIENDS."
Favorite Movie: "*When Harry Met Sally...*"
Favorite TV Host: "Jimmy Kimmel."
Favorite Comedian: "Tig Notaro."
Favorite Singer Or Band: "Willie Nelson."
Favorite Place To Learn Lines: "My bedroom."
Favorite Kitchen Appliance: "Coffee maker."
Favorite Vacation Spot: "London."

ESB PROFESSIONAL/SHUTTERSTOCK

Evan Hofer (Dex)

DAVID BUCHAN/SHUTTERSTOCK

Favorite Shampoo: "I actually don't use shampoo. I only use conditioner, a really wonderful volumizing conditioner from the brand Enjoy. On my length of hair, it works to clean it as well as keep it nice and hydrated."
Favorite Jeans Brand: "I don't wear jeans. I'm a slacks guy. Most of my slacks are from Express, actually."
Favorite Phone App: "I'm addicted to Otrium. It's kind of a Nordstrom Rack-type thing. They have a wonderful app with terrific deals on brands that I love, so I check every day to see if there's any new stuff that's been put on there that I can get a good deal on."
Favorite Game: "I had a Pokemon game as a kid that I loved, and I recently repurchased it on eBay."
Favorite Type Of Cuisine: "Japanese."
Favorite Sports Team: "The entirety of the NBA."
Favorite Breakfast Item: "The sausage, egg and cheese McGriddle from McDonald's."
Favorite Sandwich: "I have consumed more turkey and Swiss on sourdough than anyone else in the world."
Favorite Sweet Treat: "Cookies from my mom."
Favorite Healthy Snack: "Blueberries."
Favorite Hot Beverage: "Hot chocolate."
Favorite Cold Beverage: "Sweet tea."
Favorite Color: "Yellow."
Favorite Magazine: "*Soap Opera Digest*."
Favorite Book: "Bryan Cranston's [ex-Doug, LOVING] autobiography, *A Life in Parts*. It's terrific."

soap opera digest
BIG CASTING SCOOP!
BREAKING GH NEWS!
30 Years Later: Remembering Santa Barbara

Favorite Item In Your Wardrobe: "That's really hard because my wardrobe is ever-expanding. But my favorite item right now? My John Varvatos boots. [*Sheepishly*] My mom bought them for me."

Favorite Room In Your Home: "The gym."
Favorite Sitcom: "SEINFELD."
Favorite Movie: "*A Knight's Tale* with Heath Ledger."
Favorite TV Host: "Bob Barker."
Favorite Comedian: "Donald Glover."
Favorite Singer Or Band: "Green Day. Billie Joe Armstrong."
Favorite Kitchen Appliance: "My KitchenAid Stand Mixer. It was my grandmother's."

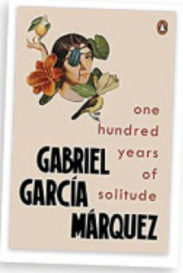
Favorite Place To Learn Lines: "At my dining room table, on the phone with my mom, who runs them with me."
Favorite Vacation Spot: "Universal Studios in Orlando, FL."

ROB LATOUR/SHUTTERSTOCK

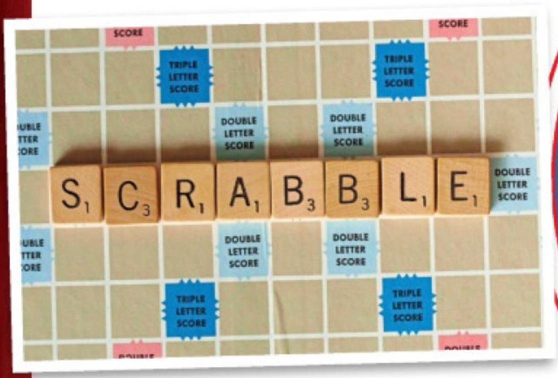
Finola Hughes

(Anna)

Favorite Shampoo: "I use Aussie."
Favorite Jeans Brand: "Madewell."
Favorite Phone App: "Babbel, the language app. It's brilliant."
Favorite Game: "Heads-Up! We play it a lot in my family just to be stupid. Sometimes my kids are like, 'We are not playing that again!' but I just love it."
Favorite Type Of Cuisine: "Italian."
Favorite Sports Team: "Chelsea FC."
Favorite Breakfast Item: "Toast. Boring, I know. I'm not a big breakfast person."
Favorite Sandwich: "Cheese, tomato, lettuce, maybe a little relish, on focaccia. But it's got to be a really good, crumbly, tangy cheese, not just one slice of cheese, but like a really good white cheddar or something."
Favorite Sweet Treat: "Anything that contains chocolate, honestly."
Favorite Healthy Snack: "I nearly always take an apple with me when I go somewhere and eat it in the car."
Favorite Hot Beverage: "Tea, hands down. I drink it all day."
Favorite Cold Beverage: "A drink they only make in England called an elderberry cordial. It's poured over ice and it's just delicious. It's nonalcoholic and it reminds me of being a young girl."
Favorite Color: "Green."
Favorite Magazine: "*SOD*. Really! I really enjoy reading your articles. I love it!"
Favorite Book: "*One Hundred Years of Solitude*."
Favorite Item In Your Wardrobe: "My black jeans."
Favorite Room In Your Home: "My bedroom."
Favorite Sitcom: "MODERN FAMILY."
Favorite Movie: "People are going to read this and go, 'What?!' But I've got to say *Apocalypse Now* because it's just brilliant storytelling. *Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf?* is another favorite."
Favorite TV Host: "Kelly Ripa [ex-Hayley, ALL MY CHILDREN], of course! She's so witty and when I watch her, I'm always amazed at how she is able to make everybody feel comfortable and how she comes up with great gags on the fly."
Favorite Comedian: "I can't name just one! Eddie Izzard, Dave Chappelle, Ricky Gervais."
Favorite Singer Or Band: "Well, it's Beyoncé! I feel badass when I listen to her; she instills me with badass-ery. And I just love how all about women she is."
Favorite Place To Learn Lines: "In my bedroom, in my bright pink velvet chair next to my white desk."
Favorite Kitchen Appliance: "My mixer. I like baking with my daughter. We had a whole cookie baking fest this weekend and I realized that my mixer is probably as old as my oldest son! So, it's like 22."
Favorite Vacation Spot: "Paris. I really enjoy speaking French, even though I don't do it very well, and the lifestyle of sitting in cafés."



■ **Favorite Shampoo:** “Milbon.”
Favorite Jeans Brand: “Khaite.”
Favorite Phone App: “Yuka.”
Favorite Game: “Scrabble.”



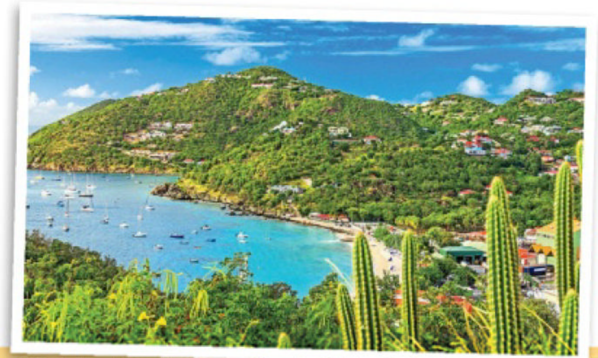
Favorite Type Of Cuisine: “Italian.”
Favorite Sports Team: “The Yankees.”
Favorite Breakfast Item: “Breakfast sandwich.”
Favorite Sandwich: “Fried chicken sandwich.”
Favorite Sweet Treat: “Warm chocolate chip cookie with vanilla ice cream.”
Favorite Healthy Snack: “Apple slices with almond butter.”

Favorite Hot Beverage: “Hot toddy.”
Favorite Cold Beverage: “Aperol Spritz.”
Favorite Color: “Black, to wear.”
Favorite Magazine: “*Soap Opera Digest*, of course!”
Favorite Book: “*To Kill A Mockingbird*.”
Favorite Item In Your Wardrobe: “Vintage black blazer.”
Favorite Room In Your Home: “[Daughter] Josephine’s bedroom.”

Elizabeth Hendrickson (Chloe)

IMAGE PRESS AGENCY/SHUTTERSTOCK

Favorite Sitcom: “HOW I MET YOUR MOTHER.”
Favorite Movie: “*Shawshank Redemption*.”
Favorite TV Host: “James Corden.”
Favorite Comedian: “Sebastian Maniscalco.”
Favorite Singer: “Jimmy Buffett.”
Favorite Place To Learn Lines: “The sauna.”
Favorite Kitchen Appliance: “Air fryer.”
Favorite Vacation Spot: “St. Barts!”



Camryn Grimes
(Mariah)

JORDAN STRAUSS/SHUTTERSTOCK

Favorite Shampoo: "Ouai."
Favorite Jeans Brand: "Madewell jeans are awesome."
Favorite Phone App: "TikTok."
Favorite Game: "My friends and I play a pretty specific game called Psychiatrist."
Favorite Type Of Cuisine: "Korean."
Favorite Sports Team: "None, I don't watch sports."
Favorite Breakfast Item: "Beans on toast. It's a British thing."
Favorite Sandwich: "The Tuna Italiano at Domingo's Italian Deli in Encino [CA]."
Favorite Sweet Treat: "A glass of wine. That's my dessert."
Favorite Healthy Snack: "Instead of crackers, I use cucumber slices and top with tuna mixed with a little avocado oil and mayo."
Favorite Hot Beverage: "Chai tea latte with oat milk."

Favorite Cold Beverage: "Harry Potter's Frozen Butterbeer at Universal Studios."
Favorite Color: "Teal. Not many people know this."
Favorite Magazine: "*Bon Appétit*."
Favorite Book: "*It*."
Favorite Item In Your Wardrobe: "My Prada boots that I got for $30."
Favorite Room In Your Home: "The kitchen."
Favorite Sitcom: "FRIENDS."
Favorite Movie: "*The Nightmare Before Christmas*."
Favorite TV Host: "I don't have one."
Favorite Comedian: "I love Nikki Glaser."
Favorite Singer Or Band: "My Chemical Romance."
Favorite Place To Learn Lines: "My dressing room."
Favorite Kitchen Appliance: "My Always Pan."
Favorite Vacation Spot: "Kauai."

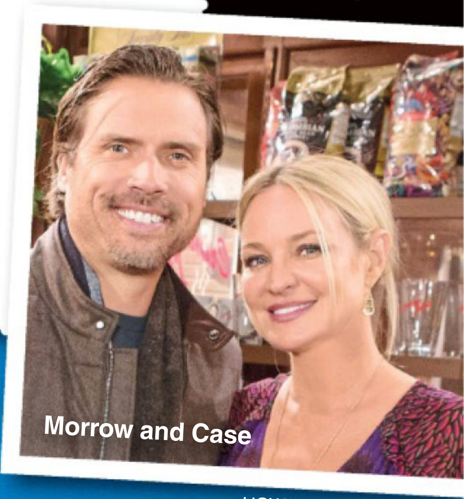
starsight

In this column, renowned astrologer and best-selling author Maria Shaw Lawson, who has offered advice on MR. PERSONALITY, BLIND DATE and SOAP TALK, tells those of you born under this month's sign what to expect for the next year.

Happy Birthday, Aquarius!

(January 21 — February 18)

✷ Exhale! Life is turning around for the better very soon. After two-plus years of challenges, hardships and lessons, the heavy Saturn transit through the sign of Aquarius is just about over. Mark March 7 on your calendar as the turning point. It will be a day of celebration as difficulties are giving way to a much happier and brighter period. Rewards are coming for all of your hard work. Meanwhile, a beneficial planet will create a new wave of good luck for you, primarily in the area of travel, communication and luck within your community. You will enjoy your neighborhood as you take on a larger role in making it a special place to live. You may run for local office, start a business or do volunteer work. Your day-to-day routine is happier and more carefree, too. The only challenge I would see for 2023 is financial. You must be diligent with cash and make sure not to squander it. Lessons around money are highlighted. You will learn to do more with less. Relationships look good, especially March through mid-July, as 2023 ushers in the summer of love. With Venus opposite your sign, partnerships are plenty. However when the planet of love retrogrades July 22 through September 9, an old flame could appear, giving you food for thought. Do you want a second chance? All in all, 2023 is not without its challenges but it is a good year for Aquarians who are ready to let their hair down and have some fun.



Morrow and Case

HOWARD WISE/JPI

Zodiac Sign Celebrants

Matthew Ashford
(Jack, DAYS) 1/29

Bonnie Burroughs
(Gladys, GH) 2/3

Mark Grossman
(Adam, Y&R) 2/3

Risa Dorken
(Amy, GH) 2/4

Joshua Morrow
(Nicholas, Y&R) 2/8

Tajh Bellow
(TJ, GH) 2/9

Sharon Case
(Sharon, Y&R) 2/9

Charles Shaughnessy
(Victor, GH) 2/9

Carson Boatman
(Johnny, DAYS) 2/10

Galen Gering
(Rafe, DAYS) 2/13

Michael Easton
(Finn, GH) 2/15

Denise Richards
(Shauna, B&B) 2/17

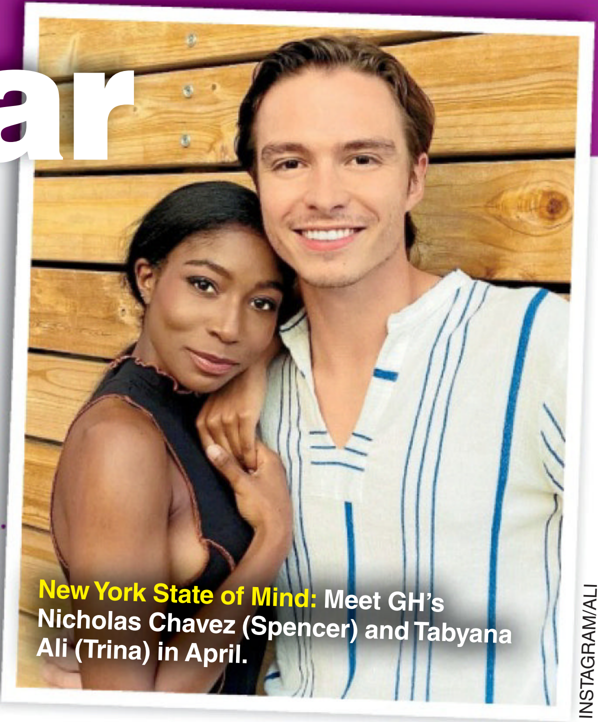
Jess Walton
(Jill, Y&R) 2/18

Maria Shaw Lawson is a celebrity astrologer who regularly appears in the media. Visit mariashaw.com for her tour schedule and book your own consultation.

calendar

events

Who: GH's Bonnie Burroughs (Gladys) and Johnny Wactor (ex-Brando)
What: Meet and Greet
When: Sun., Mar. 5
Where: Uncle Vinnie's Comedy Club, 518 Arnold Avenue, Point Pleasant Beach, NJ
How: For tickets, please visit unclevinniescomedyclub.com/soap-stars-special-events.



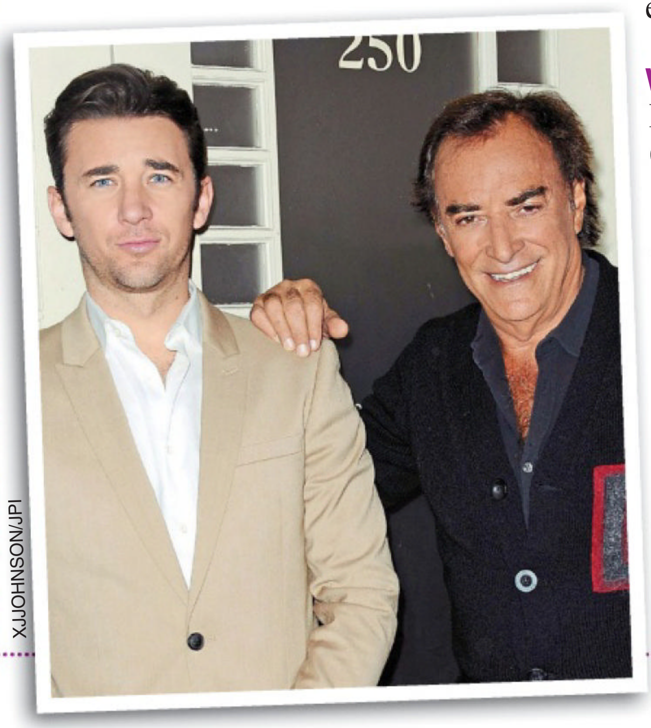
New York State of Mind: Meet GH's Nicholas Chavez (Spencer) and Tabyana Ali (Trina) in April.

INSTAGRAM/ALI

Who: GH's Tabyana Ali (Trina) and Nicholas Chavez (Spencer)
What: Personal Appearance
When: Sun., Apr. 2
Where: Governor's Levittown, 90 Division Avenue, Levittown, NY
How: Tickets are $85 for VIP and $45 for general admission and can be purchased at coastalentertainment.com/events.

Who: GH's Eden McCoy (Josslyn) and Laura Wright (Carly)
What: Personal Appearance
When: Wed., Apr. 12
Where: Albany Funny Bone, 1 Crossgates Mall Road, #K-206, Albany, NY
How: Tickets are $85 for VIP and $49 for general admission and can be purchased at coastalentertainment.com/events.

Who: DAYS's Dan Feuerriegel (EJ), Billy Flynn (Chad), Leann Hunley (Anna), Thaao Penghlis (Tony), Greg Rikaart (Leo; Kevin, Y&R) and Zach Tinker (Sonny)
What: DAYS event
When: Sat.-Sun., April 15-16
Where: Hyatt Regency, 3 Speedwell Avenue, Morristown, NJ
How: Various ticket packages, including sponsorships, can be purchased at starstruckfanevents.com.



XJJOHNSON/JPI

Spring Fling: Join DAYS's Billy Flynn (Chad, far l.) and Thaao Penghlis (Tony) in New Jersey.

bold *and* beautiful

LOVE, ACTUALLY

Bill tells Sheila he loves her. Taylor and Steffy watch in horror as Sheila gushes over her beau. Sheila and Taylor square off. When Sheila boasts that there is nothing anyone can do to put her back in prison, Taylor calls her bluff and threatens to confess to shooting Bill.

THINK AGAIN

Katie and Carter listen intently as Finn reports that Bill is blackmailing Steffy but doesn't explain why. Katie is blown away when Finn reveals that Bill and Sheila are in a romantic relationship. Reeling from the news, Katie leaves to confront Bill. She acknowledges that he hasn't been himself lately but points out that protecting Sheila is not the answer to whatever is causing him pain. Katie attempts to convince Bill to turn on Sheila just as Sheila enters.

Sheila defends herself when Katie implores Bill to think about Liam, Wyatt and Will. Bill stands by as Katie and Sheila go at it. Sheila demands that Katie leave and is happy when Bill backs her up. Katie storms out. Bill and Sheila relax together; Sheila tells Bill that he is everything to her.

flashback to 2018

Memory Lapse: Liam (Scott Clifton) hit his head and had a flash of being at Bill's house on the night his father was shot. Liam confessed to Hope (Annika Noelle) that he thought he pulled the trigger because he saw Bill propose to Steffy.

PHOTOS: HOWARD WISE/JPI

ROMANCE REPORT

Steffy and Finn blab to a shocked Hope that Bill and Sheila are in a romantic relationship.... Liam has a tough time accepting that Bill is with Sheila.

FAILED ATTEMPT

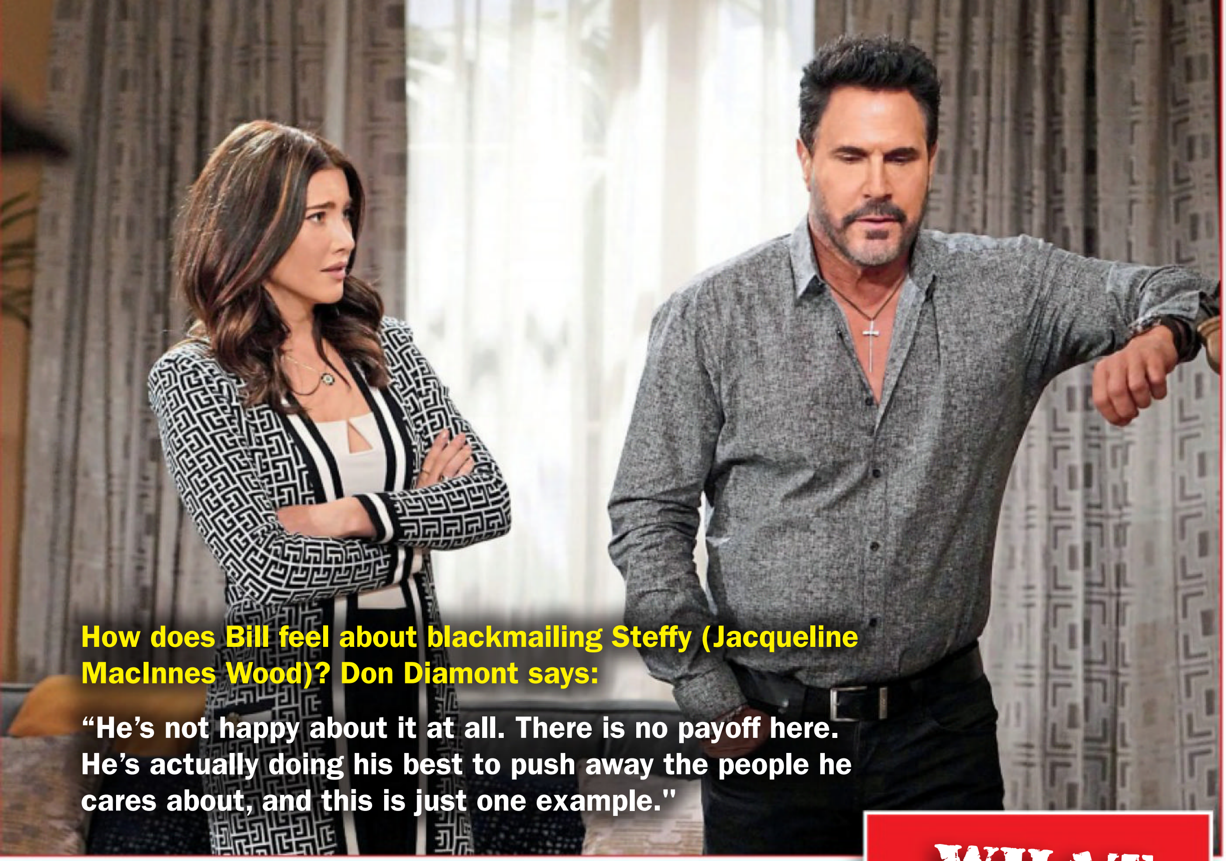
Carter attempts to calm Katie, who is visibly upset. She admits she thought she could convince Bill, but unfortunately, he is under Sheila's spell. Katie worries about how Will will react to Bill with Sheila.

SPEAK UP?

Li arrives at Steffy and Finn's as soon as she hears about Sheila being released from prison. Shocked that Sheila got away with attempted murder, Li lets Finn and Steffy know that she would be happy to testify against her. Finn reminds his mother that she would lose her medical license if she testified.

SECURITY TEAM

Sheila and Bill dive into Bill's past and joke



CBS • CBS • CBS

How does Bill feel about blackmailing Steffy (Jacqueline MacInnes Wood)? Don Diamont says:

"He's not happy about it at all. There is no payoff here. He's actually doing his best to push away the people he cares about, and this is just one example."

about all the bad things Bill has done. She promises that she will never turn her back on him. The next morning, the duo wakes up next to each other, content and happy with the night they shared.

BROTHERS UP IN ARMS

Liam and Hope confirm to Wyatt that the rumor he heard about Bill and Sheila is true. The brothers head out and angrily confront their father, who is committed to his relationship with Sheila.

TRY, TRY AGAIN

Finn and Steffy contemplate how to get Bill to snap out of whatever spell he's under.... Steffy vows to Hope that Sheila will rot in prison.

FACE OFF

Sheila worries that Bill has burned his relationships to be with her.

Liam and Hope tell Brooke about the troublesome conversation Liam and Wyatt had with Bill. When Brooke asks if Liam told Wyatt that Taylor shot Bill all those years ago, Liam says no. Brooke decides that it is time that she pays a visit to Bill. When Brooke leaves, Liam and Hope recount the night Bill was shot and how Liam thought he was the shooter. Brooke arrives at Bill's and encounters Sheila. Brooke vows that she will put Sheila back in prison.

WHAT WILL HAPPEN

- Hope is anxious after receiving reviews of her new line that Thomas didn't design.
- Steffy and Eric balk at Hope's suggestion of how to revitalize the Hope for the Future collection.
- An unexpected advocate for Thomas approaches Hope.

days *of our* lives

PUNCH PATROL

Stefan punches Li for brainwashing him, and demands Rolf's whereabouts. Li swears he doesn't know. After a dubious Stefan leaves, Li calls Rolf to warn him.... Stefan runs into Gabi, who is heartened to hear he was searching for Rolf. Li comes upon them. Stefan insults Gabi, so Li punches him. After Stefan leaves, Li tries to comfort Gabi, but she rebuffs him. She then gets ice for his injured hand but promptly dumps it over his head.

CALL FORWARDING

Alex admits to Stephanie that he turned off her phone when he saw an incoming call from Chad. An enraged Stephanie blames Alex for missing her mother's last dying moments and dumps him.

HEARING THINGS

Will overhears Leo on a phone call talking about the importance of looking out for number one. After, Will meets with Allie and Julie, who are at the hospital for a prayer vigil for Marlena. Julie panics when she realizes she left her rosary at home. Will offers to go get it. Later, Will overhears Leo confessing to Sloan that he can't let Sonny know what he's been up to.

Gwen refuses to consider testifying against Xander, even when Leo summons Sloan for her expert opinion. Will overhears Leo strategizing with Sloan and learns Leo helped Xander cover up the kidnapping of Susan and Bonnie. He slips away unnoticed. When Leo goes home, Sonny throws him out.

ANOTHER SHOT

Sloan ambushes Chanel by serving her with legal papers indicating she intends to sue Chanel and Paulina for wrongful death. Later, Paulina vows to give as good as she gets where Sloan is concerned.

SWEET THING

Alex tells Sonny that Stephanie dumped him.... Alex goes to drown his sorrows and runs into Sloan, who lectures him about risking his heart.... Stephanie cries to Chad about Alex. Chad makes her dinner, and he talks about losing Kate. Stephanie grows emotional when she finds a pie her mother made for her. They share the dessert and bond.

NO CHANCE

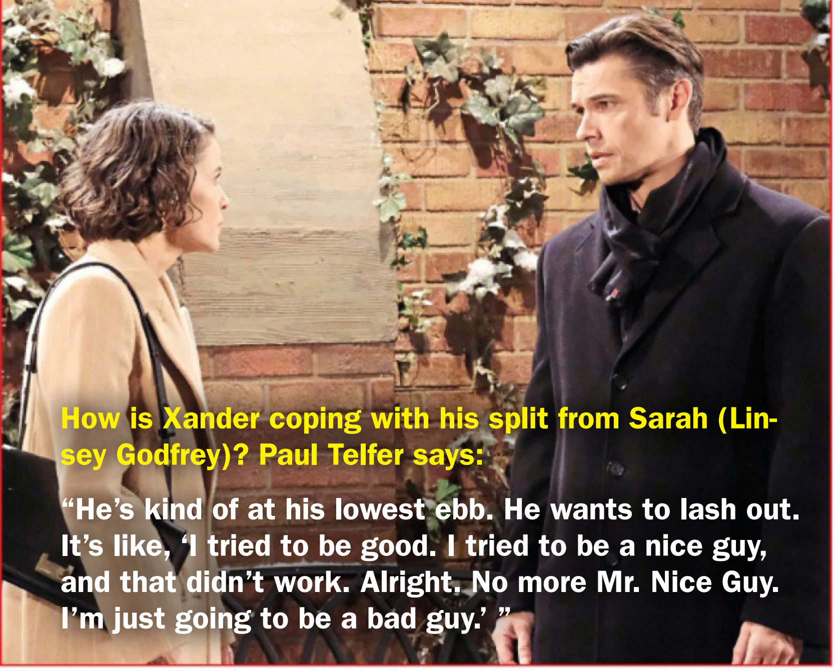
Sarah asks Justin to represent her in her divorce from Xander. Bonnie surprises them by suggesting Sarah give Xander a second chance. Justin agrees that Sarah should give it some time before filing.

Gwen visits Xander at the motel and discovers he's a drunken mess. She learns that Sarah wants a divorce.

flashback to 2013

Head Case: Abigail (Kate Mansi) dumped Chad (then-Casey Jon Deidrick) after learning he lied about having a brain tumor.

SEAN SMITH/JPI



How is Xander coping with his split from Sarah (Linsey Godfrey)? Paul Telfer says:

"He's kind of at his lowest ebb. He wants to lash out. It's like, 'I tried to be good. I tried to be a nice guy, and that didn't work. Alright. No more Mr. Nice Guy. I'm just going to be a bad guy.' "

XJ JOHNSON/JPI

WHAT WILL HAPPEN

- Will gets a new job opportunity.
- Johnny lashes out at Tripp over Susan and Ava.
- Eric turns to Sloan for comfort.

Gwen sobers him up with a shower so they can make a plan. While they're in a state of undress, Sarah drops by on Bonnie's advice. After seeing Gwen and Xander together, she storms off.

TRUE CONFESSIONS

A furious Steve corners Kristen, blaming her for what happened to Kayla. Kristen tries to defend herself, but Steve's heard enough and attacks her. Johnny pulls him off.

Stephanie greets Joey and Tripp, who have come to be with Steve. After they all share emotional memories of Kayla, Steve, intent on getting something incriminating against Kristen, shows Joey a listening device, paired with the bug he planted in the DiMera mansion. Later, Steve and Joey listen to a conversation between Kristen and Johnny, where she confesses to her many crimes and admits she's haunted by them.

Steve arrives at the police station with his recording of Kristen confessing. Rafe tells him it's not admissible in court, but Jada recalls a loophole. They call Johnny, who comes to the station, where Rafe and Jada explain that if Johnny is willing to testify to the validity of the recording, they can get it entered into evidence, allowing Rafe and Jada to arrest Kristen. Johnny agrees to do it.

GOTCHA!

Brady runs into Chloe. Hopeful that she wants to be with him again, he kisses her, but Chloe pulls away, admitting how conflicted she still feels.

Chloe confronts Kristen about her manipulations. Their argument escalates and Chloe threatens Kristen with a fireplace poker. Stefan breaks up the fight and Kristen leaves. After, Rafe and Jada arrive with a warrant for Kristen's arrest. Stefan tells them she's not home. Across town, Kristen suggests to Rachel that they leave town. EJ runs into Kristen and Rachel and deduces that his sister has abducted the girl. Kristen threatens to expose his part in Stefan's brainwashing if he outs her.

Rafe calls Brady to inform him the police are planning to arrest Kristen. Brady calls to check on Rachel, and is stunned to learn Kristen picked up their daughter from school. Later, Brady stops Kristen from leaving town with Rachel, and eventually, Rafe and Jada arrest her.

HOME AGAIN

Belle returns to Salem to be with Marlena, who has taken a turn for the worse. John urges his wife to rest, but Marlena has a better idea: She wants John to take her home.

general hospital

DIFFERENCES OF OPINION

Gladys tries to persuade Sasha to sell Brando's garage, but Sasha and Sonny think the offer is too low.... Portia is alarmed by Trina's renewed closeness with Spencer. Curtis advises her not to interfere, but Taggert disagrees. Curtis expresses his desire to have a child with Portia.

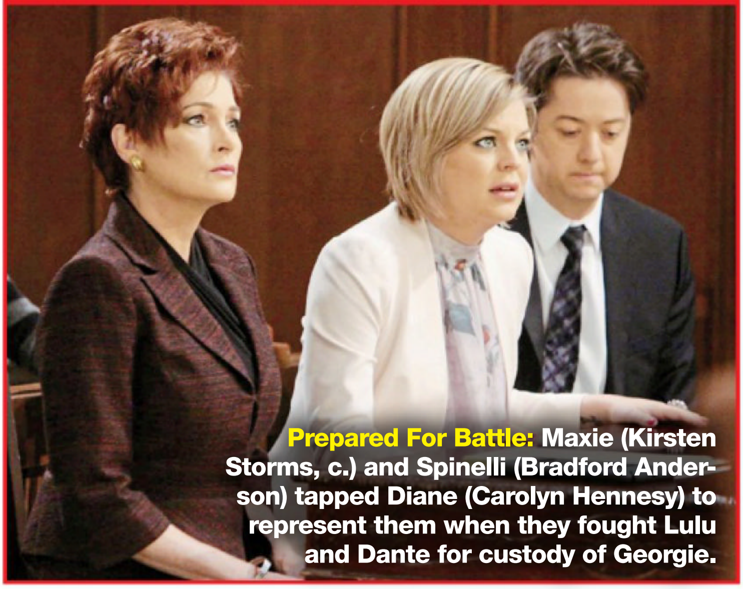
NEWS TRAVELS FAST

Sonny reveals Willow's diagnosis to Josslyn. Dex implores Joss not to tell Sonny about them and consoles her when she opens up about losing Oscar to cancer. Nina accuses Michael of being the reason Willow delayed treatment. Willow collapses after screaming at Nina to leave. Drew struggles to absorb the shock that Carly lied to him for months about the Willow/Nina connection. They table their conversation when they learn Willow is being rushed to G.H.

LAWYER UP

With Diane by her side, Joss is questioned by Dante, Jordan and Robert about whether she was the person The Hook was targeting the night Britt died. They let her go, but Dante thinks Joss is holding something back.... Alexis learns about Esme's nanny, Maggie, from Spencer and resolves to suss out the identity of The Hook. She asks Sam to resume her investigation into Maggie, and they begin to puzzle out the connection between The Hook and Esme's father.... Spencer wants to go after custody of Esme's baby and Diane agrees to consider taking the case, even if it pits Spencer against his father.... Esme's attorney, Martin, arrives, kicks Victor out of her room — and also lets it slip that Anna and Valentin are convinced that Lucy is still alive.

flashback to 2013



Prepared For Battle: Maxie (Kirsten Storms, c.) and Spinelli (Bradford Anderson) tapped Diane (Carolyn Hennesy) to represent them when they fought Lulu and Dante for custody of Georgie.

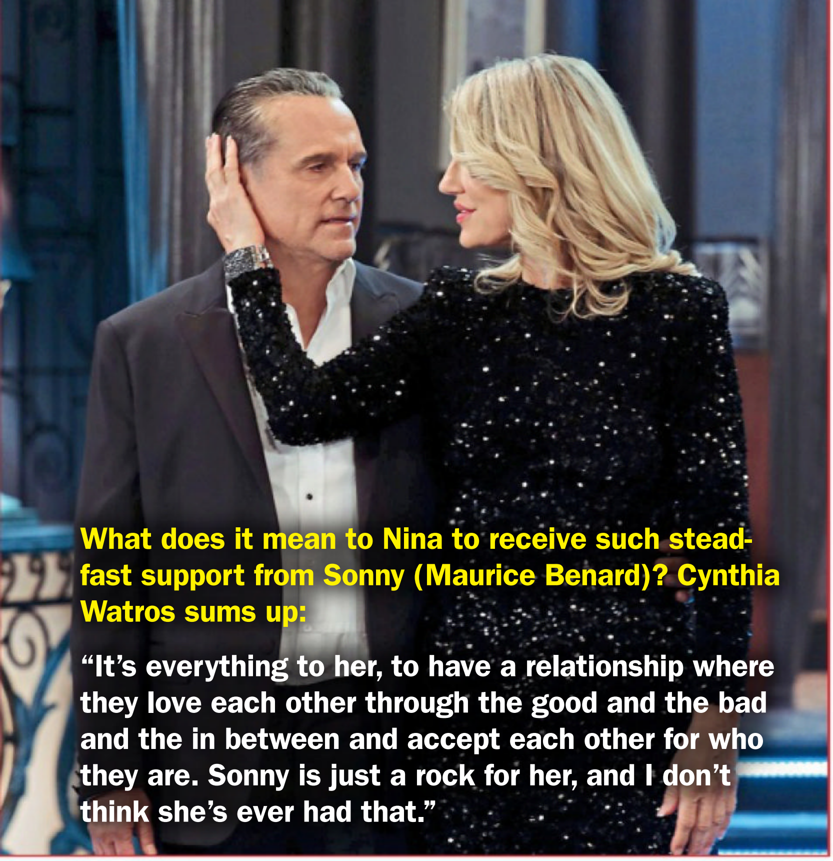
HOWARD WISE/JPI

BABYSITTERS CLUB

Brook Lynn thinks up an excuse to summon Chase and is dismayed when he arrives with Sasha. Cody distracts Sasha and they bond over losing Brando and Britt. When Michael and Willow head to the hospital, Chase helps Brook Lynn look after Wiley and he is reminded of why he fell for her in the first place.

PRAYER CIRCLE

Carly enters the G.H. chapel, where Sonny and Nina are praying for Willow, and asks to speak to Nina alone. While Sonny drops in on Willow, Carly confesses to Nina that she



What does it mean to Nina to receive such steadfast support from Sonny (Maurice Benard)? Cynthia Watros sums up:

"It's everything to her, to have a relationship where they love each other through the good and the bad and the in between and accept each other for who they are. Sonny is just a rock for her, and I don't think she's ever had that."

CHRISTINE BARTOLUCCI/ABC

WHAT WILL HAPPEN

- Liz and Finn have a talk with Violet.
- Marshall opens up to Curtis.
- Michael unleashes his anger.
- Cam gets an unpleasant surprise.

gave birth to twins — Willow is her daughter. Carly cops to covering up the truth and Nina slaps her. Drew shares the big news with Michael. Michael and Nina converge in Willow's room, and Willow reels when Nina reveals that she is her mother. Michael leaves to run interference between Sonny, Drew and Carly, as Sonny has just learned of Carly's deception. Michael admits to Sonny that he is upset by Carly's actions. Nina voices her desire to build a relationship with Willow, who rebuffs her. Nina remains determined to do whatever it takes to save Willow.

FORGET ME NOT

Liz counsels Cameron about his split from Joss. Later, Liz expresses empathy for Esme as she tells Nikolas about her own repressed memories of Reiko. When Nik learns about how Liz's parents tampered with her memory, he gets an idea.... Laura chats with Esme and realizes Spencer led Esme to believe that he is the baby's father. Dante arrives to see Esme, hoping to jog her memory. Laura frets to Dante about how to handle Esme's case. Heather plots to break out of Spring Ridge in order to protect Esme — but she changes her mind when she sees Spring Ridge's newest prisoner: Esme.

FRENCH TWIST

In Paris, Anna and Valentin scope out the building where they believe Lucy is being held. Because of its tight security, Anna fears they will not be able to access Lucy. Valentin says he knows someone who can help them.

MATCH POINT

Michael is unhappy when Willow resists delivering their daughter prematurely. He talks through his fears with Chase and concludes that it is Willow's decision to make. Opposite this, Sasha helps Willow process her feelings regarding Nina, and Sonny assures Nina that it's safe for her to express her fury toward Carly to him. Nina learns she could be a potential bone marrow match for Willow and returns to G.H. for a biopsy.

young *and* restless

MOM TO MOM

Billy, Chelsea, Lily and Daniel have an awkward encounter at the coffeehouse. Lily thanks Daniel for letting her bend his ear earlier.... At Society, Adam accuses Billy of taking advantage of Chelsea. Billy counters that Adam resents that Chelsea isn't leaning on him anymore. Abby breaks up their argument, and Billy laments to Abby that he's lost everything.... Adam goes to check on Chelsea and is upset to see the remains of her movie night with Billy. Victoria brings Johnny to Chelsea's for a pizza night with Chelsea, Connor and Billy, and admits to Chelsea that she's unnerved by Johnny spending more time with Connor and Chelsea.

FRENCH KISS-OFF

Tucker accuses Audra of ruining his plans for Devon. She confesses to Nate that Devon and Lily discovered her collusion with Tucker and fired her. After learning from Kyle that Ashley is returning to Paris, Tucker apologizes for hurting her and pleads with her to stay. Ashley insists she can't trust Tucker and is still going.

VIEWING PARTIES

Sally distracts Nick with romance to keep him from seeing her prenatal vitamins.

Stark asks Diane how she intends to steal from Nikki; she tells him not to underestimate her. Phyllis covertly snaps photos of them. She shows the images to Nikki, adamant that Diane is playing Jack.

DEEP CUT

Victor suggests to Kyle that they work together to remove Adam from Jabot. Later, Kyle briefs Summer on Victor's proposal, and Victor asks Adam how he would feel if Connor cut his father out of his life the way Adam is.

NECK BRACE

When Jack returns from Chicago, Summer angrily realizes that he stole one of Nikki's necklaces. Summer insists that she and Kyle cannot take part in Jack and Diane's schemes. A grateful Diane kisses Jack, who details his plan to accelerate things with Stark. Diane presents the necklace to Jeremy, who proposes sealing their new partnership with a kiss. While he's in the bathroom, Diane plants items around his suite.

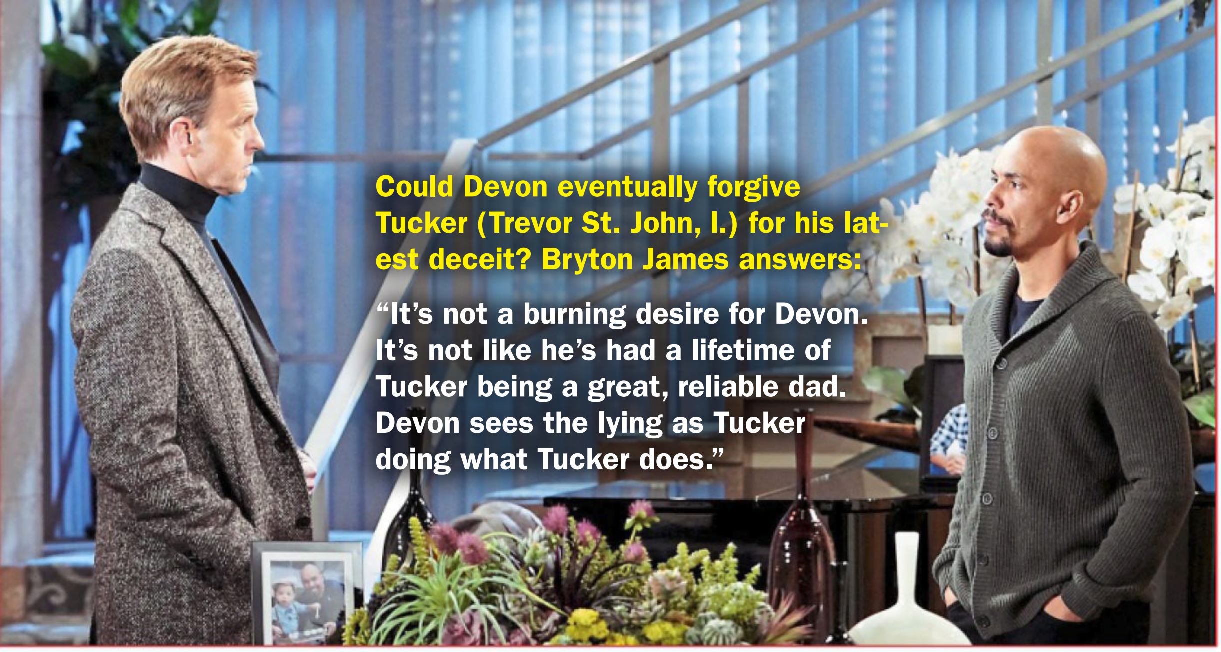
SON BURN

Tucker tells Devon that he came to town to fulfill his dream of working with

flashback to 2018

I See France: Ashley (Eileen Davidson, r.) said an emotional farewell to Alzheimer's-stricken Dina (Marla Adams) before moving to Paris to start her own company.

PHOTOS: HOWARD WISE/JPI



Could Devon eventually forgive Tucker (Trevor St. John, l.) for his latest deceit? Bryton James answers:

"It's not a burning desire for Devon. It's not like he's had a lifetime of Tucker being a great, reliable dad. Devon sees the lying as Tucker doing what Tucker does."

Devon and Ashley at a massive family conglomerate. Devon replies that he wants nothing to do with Tucker, who remains determined to earn Devon's forgiveness. Phyllis orders Tucker to stay away from Daniel when he probes her about her new venture.

SHE'S COME UNDONE

Phyllis tells Daniel that she cannot let go of her vendetta against Diane, and he is concerned about her attitude negatively affecting Omega-Sphere. Later, Tucker advises Phyllis to stop fighting the world so hard. Daniel warns Summer that Phyllis is spiraling. After, Summer and Kyle argue; she thinks he idolizes Diane.

COP TO IT

Chance discusses his career with Sharon, who recommends that he take a leave of absence from the GCPD. Jack overhears Chance get a call from the Chicago Police Department. Later, Chance finds evidence in Jeremy's suite that implicates Stark in the theft of Nikki's necklace. Jack and Diane arrive; Stark declares that they set him up. Chance finds the necklace on Jeremy and leads him away. Jack tells Diane that with Stark out of the way, he wants to focus on their relationship.

DEAL OR NO DEAL

Devon makes his case to Lily and Jill for taking back Hamilton-Winters. Lily informs Devon that Jill wants to move forward with the IPO, but eventually, Jill and Lily will buy him out so that he can start a new company. He vents to Abby, who assures him that he won't have to face the future alone. Billy gives Lily a pep talk after her conversation with Devon, and a contemplative Lily gazes at a picture of herself, Neil and Devon.

BABY MAKES THREE?

Mariah and Tessa announce to Abby and Sharon that Delphine wants them to adopt her baby. ☐

SUDOKU ANSWERS

1	3	5	2	6	4	7	8	9
7	9	8	1	5	3	2	6	4
6	2	4	8	7	9	5	1	3
3	8	9	4	1	5	6	2	7
2	5	6	9	3	7	1	4	8
4	1	7	6	2	8	3	9	5
5	4	1	7	9	2	8	3	6
9	6	3	5	8	1	4	7	2
8	7	2	3	4	6	9	5	1

ask us
we've got the answers

Three Peat: Here's Scott Clifton (Liam, B&B) after winning his third Emmy in 2017.

INVISION/AP/SHUTTERSTOCK

Q **I know B&B's Scott Clifton (Liam) has won multiple Emmys, and I also know he has been on three soaps. Did he win his Emmys for all three roles?**

Joan in CT

A While Clifton has been nominated for an Emmy for each of his soap roles — GH's Dillon, ONE LIFE TO LIVE's Schuyler and B&B's Liam — he has only taken home the gold for B&B, and has the distinction of winning in all three acting categories — Outstanding Lead Actor (2017), Outstanding Supporting Actor (2013) and Outstanding Younger Actor (2011).

Q **I enjoyed seeing Danny Romalotti again on Y&R. My mom told me that he was the only one in the family who went by that last name. Why is that?**

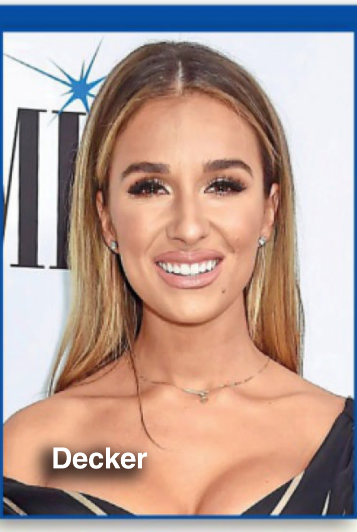
Alice H., via email

A Danny's father, Bryan Romalotti, was a con artist who involved his daughter, Gina, in some of his scams and they both went to prison. When Danny's sister was released, she went by Gina Roma to distance herself from her criminal past. When Bryan got out, he ended up homeless and living on the streets of Genoa City. A crafty Jill shined him up and changed his name to Rex Sterling, so he could woo Katherine. Even after Jill gleefully informed Kay that her new beau was a fraud, she was in love and they got married. Since Bryan was living a new, reformed life, he continued to go by Rex and Katherine was thrilled to welcome

twin peek

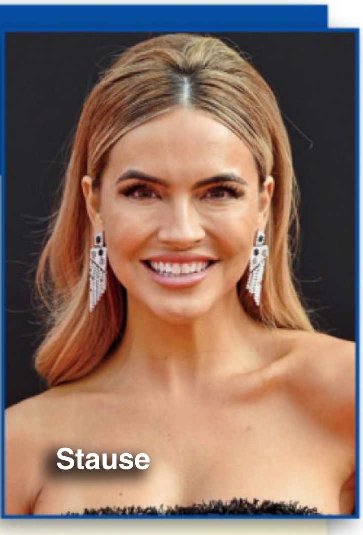
I have seen some pictures of Chrishell Stause [ex-Jordan, DAYS] and singer Jessie James Decker that show a resemblance. Can you show side-by-side photos? Thanks!

Deborah G., via email



Decker

AFF-USA SHUTTERSTOCK



Stause

ROB LATOUR/SHUTTERSTOCK

Danny and Gina as her stepchildren.

Q **On GH, how was the character of Leopold Taub written out? Did he die or just leave town?**

K.P., via email

A Taub last appeared in December 1991, when he was arrested by the WSB for his various illegal dealings. But a few days later, Mac informed Dominique that Taub had tried to make an escape from WSB custody and was fatally shot in the process.

Q **Wasn't Y&R's Cane responsible for the death of his sister, who he accidentally killed?**

D.G., via email

A Cane wasn't responsible for Samantha's death. His no-good identical twin, Caleb, missed when he fired a gun at Cane and their sister was fatally wounded.

Q **I was watching a comedy series on HBO Max called OUR FLAG MEANS DEATH. On one episode, I swear I saw the actress who played Daisy on Y&R. Am I right?**

A.M., via email

A Yes, that is Y&R alum Yvonne Zima playing Fleur de Maquis. Incidentally, the actress has also written for the show.

Got a question or "Twin Peeks" suggestion for the staff of *Soap Opera Digest*?

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SOUND OFF

What's on your mind?

JUST CAN'T GET ENOUGH

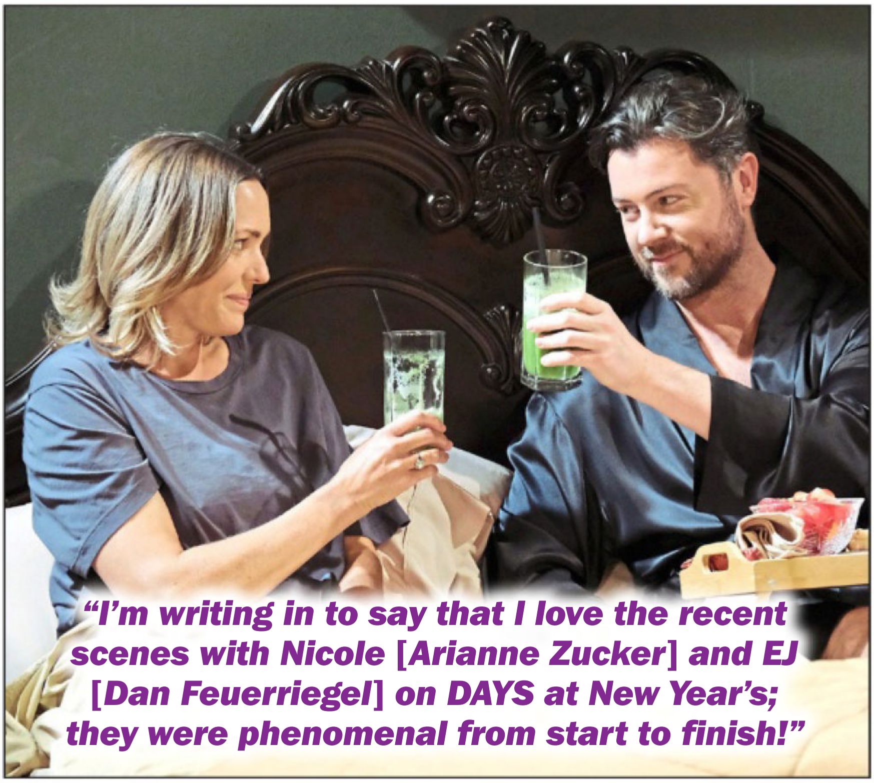
I'm writing in to say that I love the recent scenes with Nicole and EJ on DAYS at New Year's; they were phenomenal from start to finish! You could feel the chemistry, connection, love and respect that they have for each other, and they just are magic to watch! You automatically look forward to more scenes with them. I speak for so many fans when I say I'm completely excited to see what 2023 holds for EJ and Nicole — we can't get enough!

C.S. in Canada

LIKE MOTHER, LIKE DAUGHTER

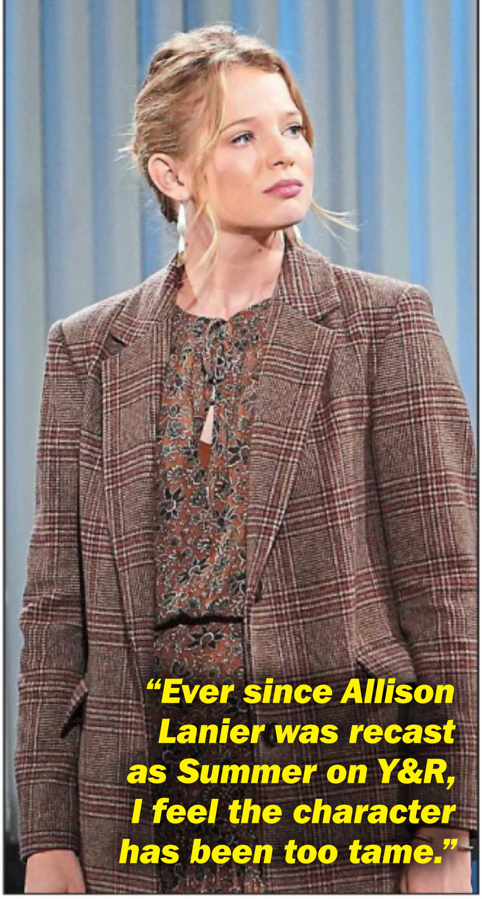
I can only speak for myself, but watching GH's Joss, a young, barely-legal girl, have sex with Dex, an older mobster, gives me the heebie-jeebies. His whole stalkerish vibe around her is creepy, too. As stubborn and obstinate as she may be, I hardly think she is equipped to navigate the mob world as a mobster's girlfriend. Plus, it's hypocritical that she thinks it's okay for her but gets on Carly for having been with Sonny. Will she care that Dex has been playing Sonny for Michael and lying to her about it? Or will she justify his behavior because she hates Sonny? And speaking of lying: Hello, Joss, you've been cheating on your boyfriend who has done nothing but stand behind you. She has demanded complete honesty from Cameron for every tiny, minor, little thing. She's just like Carly ... and that is not a compliment.

Melissa D.,
Fresno, CA



XJ JOHNSON/JPI

"I'm writing in to say that I love the recent scenes with Nicole [Arianne Zucker] and EJ [Dan Feuerriegel] on DAYS at New Year's; they were phenomenal from start to finish!"



HOWARD WISE/JPI

"Ever since Allison Lanier was recast as Summer on Y&R, I feel the character has been too tame."

MOVING ALONG

For a show set in a hospital, Willow's pregnancy complicated by leukemia on GH seems like the perfect setup for soapy drama. Unfortunately it's been just the opposite, since it's obvious this whole scenario is merely a vehicle for the reveal that Willow is Nina's daughter. We've had to suffer through Nina misinterpreting Willow and TJ's friendship, Carly's nonsensical justification for keeping quiet about Willow's birth mother, Drew's promise to keep Willow's illness a secret, and the constant confrontations between Willow and Nina. It's become tedious, and sometimes I just wish Willow would end up on life support and put us out of our misery. Willow and Nina finding a way to deal with each other would be a lot more interesting than the silliness that's currently keeping them apart.

Pamela J., Noblesville, IN

HAPPY HOLIDAYS

I have been a huge Michael and Willow fan since 2018, so ending this year with a full-blown proposal as we get ready to start winding down Willow's mother story, their baby girl and her leukemia story, was so wonderful and well-worth the wait to get to see. I have also become a big fan of Joss and Dex, and a great Christmas kiss and New Year love scene with them was a really nice thing, and such a great counter to recent years' seriously downer holidays.

Andrew T., Houston, TX

SUMMER STOCK

Ever since Allison Lanier was recast as Summer on Y&R, I feel the character has been too tame. (For that I blame the writers, not the actress.) She seems to always agree with Kyle. I know marriage and motherhood matured her, but it was just too vanilla. Then recently — finally — her inner spitfire emerged. First, Summer delivered a broadside snark (yay!) about Diane not knowing Mariah and Tessa well enough to comment that they'd make great parents. Then she told her husband that the Jeremy Stark drama was too much, so she wanted to get away and go to a textile show in Paris with Harrison. When Kyle threw shade at Phyllis, blaming her for the Stark trouble, I was glad to hear Summer defend her mom. She's always had a mind of her own and has never hesitated to speak out. Hey, Y&R, Summer can be happily married to Kyle and still tell it like it is.

S.K., via email

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MAILBAG

AROUND THE DIAL

"Thanks, GH, for the wonderful montage of Britt's life," says Sue C. in Newark, NY. "It was a beautiful and loving tribute to not only the character of Britta, but to Kelly Thiebaud who brought the once hated 'Britch' to the now beloved Britt who will be missed by all. And kudos to Kelly and to Kathleen Gati [Liesl] for their heart-wrenching, Emmy-worthy scenes. You touched our hearts. Wishing you great success, Kelly. Will be watching you on STATION 19 and missing you on GH!" Ava, "a happy subscriber" in Longview, TX, writes, "I just loved GH's 12/23 Christmas episode! From the extra guests stopping by the Quartermaines', requiring Olivia to make an extra lasagna, to the various people helping Maxie get to Georgie and helping to deliver the baby at the Quartermaines to Scotty, Laura and Cam bringing some joy to Elizabeth. It was all so heartwarming and connected lots of people from across Port Charles. It brought back great memories of GH holiday episodes of the past. What a treat!" ... "How is it even possible for B&B's Bill to do anything?" wonders Ann C., via email. "I don't care how rich he is, to get Sheila out of jail? Since when did prisoners visit other prisoners in the visitor's room? Plus, even if Bill did tell about Taylor, with her excellent reputation as a doctor, and the reason she shot him, she'd probably get community service and probation."

YOU SAID IT!

"On GH, Trina and Spencer planned to go to Britt's party so they could be seen and possibly stir up interest from The Hook. So why did they spend all their time by themselves on the deck instead of inside at the party?"

— Beth H., via email

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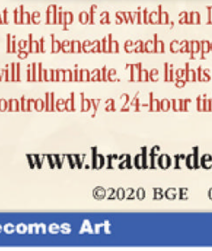

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TAKE FIVE

Lawrence Saint-Victor

(Carter, B&B)

- ***If you could pick up a new skill in an instant, what would it be?*** "Singing. I'd love to be able to sing."
- ***What's the weirdest thing you've eaten?*** "Frog legs. I am not a fan, and it doesn't taste like chicken. I don't care what people say, it tastes like something else."
- ***Who in the cast would you trust to babysit for you?*** "Obviously, Jacqui [MacInnes Wood, Steffy] but she has enough kids already. I think Annika [Noelle, Hope] would be a great babysitter."
- ***What song can always get you out on the dance floor?*** "Michael Jackson's 'Billie Jean'. "
- ***What is your take on clowns?*** "They are awesome but they get a bad rap. We can't judge every clown based off what a couple of clowns have done. The clown I like serves me chicken nuggets and french fries."

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